



AP: PRO-WESTERN PARTIES LEADING IN UKRAINE VOTE

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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Monday, October 27, 2014



At Press Time:

States Defy Obama Over Ebola Quarantines

President Barack Obama walks into the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, DC.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

**MARC SANTORA
MICHAEL D. SHEAR
© 2014 New York Times**

The Obama administration has been pushing the governors of New York and New Jersey to reverse their decision ordering all medical workers returning from West Africa who had contact with Ebola patients to be quarantined, an administration official said.

But on Sunday both governors, Andrew M. Cuomo of

New York and Chris Christie of New Jersey, stood by their decision, saying that the federal guidelines did not go far enough.

At the same time, the first person to be forced into isolation under the new protocols, Kaci Hickox, a nurse returning from Sierra Leone, planned to mount a legal challenge to the quarantine order. Despite having no symptoms, she has been kept under

quarantine at a hospital in New Jersey, where she has been confined to a tent equipped with a portable toilet and no shower. On Sunday, she spoke to CNN about the way she has been treated, describing it as "inhumane."

The rapidly escalating events played out both privately, in intense negotiations and phone calls between federal and state officials, as well as pub-

licly in the nurse's pointed criticism of the New Jersey governor.

Ever since Cuomo, a Democrat, and Christie, a Republican, announced the plan at a hastily called news conference Friday evening, top administration officials have been speaking with Cuomo daily and have also been in touch with Christie, trying to get them to rescind the order. But in that time, two more

states - Illinois and Florida - announced that they were instituting similar policies.

Federal officials made it clear that they do not agree with the governors about the need or effectiveness of a total quarantine for health care workers, though they were careful not to directly criticize the governors themselves.

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Hong Kong:

Pro-Democracy movement's vote abruptly called off

CHRIS BUCKLEY**ALAN WONG**

© 2014 New York Times

HONG KONG - Organizers of a planned vote among Hong Kong's pro-democracy demonstrators abruptly canceled it Sunday, exposing tensions and confusion over how to sustain the movement a month after protesters occupied major streets to demand free elections.

Student leaders and organizers of Occupy Central With Love and Peace, the group that laid the groundwork for a civil disobedience campaign for democracy, had urged people to vote at protest sites Sunday and Monday as a way of registering their support for student negotiators seeking political concessions from the government. The referendum boiled down to two simple questions: Did voters endorse demanding that the Hong Kong government press Beijing to make democratic concessions on election rules, and did they agree that the changes should apply to city Legislative Council elections in 2016 and the race for chief executive in 2017?

But hours before the balloting was due to start Sunday night, organizers announced it was off and apologized.

They said there was too much disagreement over

the wording and value of the vote. "We acknowledge that there was not enough consultation with the public," they said in an emailed statement.

rebuild the trust between us and the protesters. Protesters have all along shared a single goal; it's just that they may have different views about the execution."

tigue in their own ranks and the refusal of the Hong Kong government and Chinese Communist Party leaders to make the major concessions demanded by

and declare victory, they needed something from the government to be able to declare victory. Now they need to find some endgame, and I think that they're not going to find it without compromise."

Although supporters of the protests were unlikely to disagree with the two wordy propositions on the canceled ballot, some feared the vote could pave the way for unacceptable compromise or premature withdrawal from the street occupations in three parts of the city.

Benny Tai, an associate professor of law who is a co-founder of Occupy Central, earlier denied that intention and said he had no power over deciding when protesters left the streets. Occupy Central had initially envisioned a much smaller, briefer protest in Central, the main financial district of Hong Kong.

At a news conference Saturday, Tai said that he could not say how to sustain the protests into a second month. "You can just go down to the plaza and ask the protesters who have stationed there for so many days, how long do they prepare to stay. I think you can get a good answer."

But protesters have voiced a range of opinions on the future of their grass-roots movement.



Protesters occupy the Admiralty district of Hong Kong, Oct. 26, 2014. Organizers of a planned vote among Hong Kong's pro-democracy demonstrators abruptly canceled it on Sunday, exposing tensions and confusion over how to sustain the movement a month after protesters occupied major streets to demand free elections.

(Lam Yik Fei/The New York Times)

At a news conference, some organizers were contrite, while others cast their surprise move in the best possible light.

"It won't affect the morale of this movement," said Alex Chow Yong Kang, the secretary general of the Hong Kong Federation of Students. "This decision can

But even before the cancellation, the vote, intended as a display of unity, had brought into focus tensions among protesters over how to hone their broadly shared aspirations into durable demands and strategies.

Such strains could deepen as the protesters face fa-

demonstrators, said David Zweig, a professor of social science at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

"The question becomes: What's the endgame?" he said in a telephone interview from Toronto, where he was visiting. "Once they didn't pull out earlier

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At Press Time:

US states defy Obama over Ebola quarantines

Continued from Front

A senior administration official, who did not want to be identified in order to discuss private conversations with state officials on the issue, called the decision by the governors "uncoordinated, very hurried, an immediate reaction to the New York City case that doesn't comport with science."

The United States is sending thousands of military personnel and other federal workers to the West African countries hit hardest by the virus and a mandatory quarantine could make the process of sending personnel to those countries more difficult, officials said. The decision to institute a mandatory quarantine came after a New York doctor, Craig Spencer, received a diagnosis of Ebola on Thursday, having contracted the virus while working in Guinea for Doctors Without Borders. He is being treated at Bellevue Hospital Center, where his condition has worsened, an expected development as the virus replicates and spreads through his body.

The decision for mandatory quarantines has not only opened a rift with federal officials, but also between New York City and the state.

Having seen the disorganized way officials in Dallas implemented quarantine orders for people who

came into contact with Thomas Duncan, the first person to be diagnosed with Ebola in the U.S., New York City officials were determined to do better.

datory quarantine of all medical workers returning from West African countries where they worked with Ebola patients.

"The entire city was not in-

Hickox spoke out about her treatment in her interview with CNN on Sunday, saying that officials still have not told her what they plan to do next or why they are

ments about my medical condition," she said. "If he knew anything about Ebola he would know that asymptomatic people are not infectious."

She spoke from the inside of a medical tent where she has been quarantined since Friday night. The tent has a portable toilet, but no shower. There is no television and weak cellphone reception.

"I also want to be treated with compassion and humanity, and I don't feel I've been treated that way in the past three days," she said in the interview. "I think this is an extreme that is really unacceptable. I feel like my basic human rights have been violated."

Hickox has retained a well-known civil rights lawyer, Norman Siegel, to challenge the quarantine order and get her out of isolation. In an interview on Sunday, he said the order "raised substantial civil liberties issues." "The policy infringes on Kaci Hickox's constitutional liberty interests," he said. "The policy is overly broad as applied to Ms. Hickox and we are preparing to challenge it on her behalf." Christie, speaking earlier on Fox News on Sunday, defended the policy. "We've taken this action and I have absolutely no second thoughts about it," he said. □



New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie speaks as the guest of honor during Gov. Terry Branstad's birthday bash in Clive, Iowa.

(AP Photo/Bryon Houlgrave)

One key part of their strategy was to ensure that they were able to meet all the needs of those placed in isolation, making their time as comfortable as possible. The plans called for monitors to be assigned to each quarantined family or individual dedicated solely to help them get meals, stay in contact with loved ones and ensure they had a clear line of communication with officials.

On Friday night, those carefully laid plans were thrown aside when Christie and Cuomo called for a man-

formed, even the mayor's office," according to a city official involved in New York's Ebola response. "The mayor was caught unaware."

"The big picture decision was made in the absence of any deep thinking about what implementing the policy would entail," the official said.

As for Hickox, her plane happened to land precisely at the wrong moment.

"This nurse just happened to land mid-conversation between the two governors," the official said.

isolating her since she poses no public health risk as long as she remains asymptomatic.

She also blasted Christie for saying that she was sick, when it was clear that she was not running a fever and had tested negative for Ebola.

"The first thing I would say to Governor Christie is that I wish he would be more careful about his state-

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At Press Time:

3 fight for lives after Washington school shooting

MANUEL VALDES**MARTHA BELLISLE**

The Associated Press

MARYSVILLE, Washington (AP) — Three students fought for their lives in Seattle-area hospitals Sunday, days after being shot in the head during an attack at a high school on Washington state's Puget Sound.

The close-knit community, meanwhile, on the nearby Tulalip Indian reservation struggled with the news that the shooter was a popular teenager from one of their more well-known families.

A tribal guidance counselor said no one knows what prompted 14-year-old Jaylen Fryberg to walk into a busy school lunchroom and open fire Friday.

"We can't answer that question," said Matt Remle, who has an office at Marysville-Pilchuck High School. "But we try to make



Madison Wahlgren, 15, a sophomore at Marysville Pilchuck High School, holds a candle next to the school logo on her sweatshirt as she stands outside following a memorial vigil at the Grove Church in Marysville, Wash., for people affected by a shooting at the school earlier in the day.

(AP Photo/Ted S. Warren)

sense of the senselessness." Churches have held vigils since the attack that killed

one student and wounded four others, including two of Fryberg's cousins, and

gatherings were planned Sunday afternoon in the high school gym and at a

tribal center.

In the nearby community of Oso, where a mudslide this spring killed dozens, people planned to gather to write condolence letters and cards.

Of the wounded students, only 14-year-old Nate Hatch showed improvement,

though he remained in serious condition in intensive care at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. Fifteen-year-old Andrew Fryberg remained in critical condition in intensive care. Both are cousins of Jaylen Fryberg.

Meanwhile, 14-year-olds Shaylee Chuckulnaskit and Gia Soriano remained in critical condition in intensive care at Providence Regional Medical Center Everett.

The girl killed in the shooting hasn't been officially identified. □

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George P. Bush says dad 'moving forward' on 2016

KEN THOMAS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush is "moving forward" on a potential 2016 White House run and it appears more likely he will enter the Republican field, according to his son, who's running for office in Texas.

George P. Bush told ABC's "This Week" that his father is "still assessing" a presidential bid, but suggested it was more likely that he would seek the White House this time. The ex-governor declined to run for president in 2012 despite encouragement from Republicans.

"I think it's more than likely that he's giving this a serious thought and moving — and moving forward," said the younger Bush, who is running for Texas land commissioner.

Asked if that meant it was "more than likely that he'll run," George P. Bush responded: "That he'll run. If you had asked me a few years back ... I would have said it was less likely."

Jeb Bush, the brother of former President George W. Bush and the son of former President George H.W. Bush, would stand out in what could be a crowded Republican field in 2016. Bush has headlined fundraisers for Republican candidates and committees and helped campaigns for governor in Iowa. □

Struggling governors could hurt Senate hopes

CHARLES BABINGTON
CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As David Perdue campaigns throughout Georgia, the

where a governor on the ballot could conceivably undermine his party's Senate nominee, or vice versa. Strong governor-senator links are by no means cer-

tainly, meanwhile, talks of a brightening economic picture as he tries to hold off Democrat Jason Carter, grandson of former President Jimmy Carter.



Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal speaks during a news conference in Atlanta. Gov. As David Perdue campaigns throughout Georgia, the Republican candidate for Senate describes a struggling economy and people yearning for good jobs - it's not the emphasis that Deal wants to hear.

(AP Photo/Branden Camp)

Republican candidate for Senate describes a struggling economy and people yearning for good jobs. It's not the emphasis that his fellow Republican, Gov. Nathan Deal, wants to hear.

Deal is battling for re-election while Democrats emphasize the economy and remind Georgians that they have the nation's highest unemployment rate.

Georgia isn't the only state

tain. But even a small drag could affect Republicans' bid to gain six new Senate seats and take control.

Perdue constantly criticizes President Barack Obama, as do Republican Senate candidates in every contested race. Much of the criticism focuses on the economy, and Perdue portrays himself as a better job-creator than Michelle Nunn, his Democratic opponent.

"This is a state that is certainly rebounding," Deal tells voters. He says Georgia is rated "the best state in the nation in which to do business." Democratic consultant Tharon Johnson says Perdue and Deal are sending a mixed message that's likely to confuse, and possibly turn off, voters.

"Deal talks about Georgia being number one for business, and that may be true," Johnson said. "But

we're also 50th in unemployment. Perdue touts his business acumen, but he outsourced jobs. There's a disconnect." Alaska and Colorado are among other states whose embattled governors whose campaigns possibly could hurt their party's Senate nominee.

ALASKA: Republican Gov. Sean Parnell faces a surprisingly tough road to re-election in this heavily Republican state, while Republicans hope to oust first-term Democratic Sen. Mark Begich. Parnell's problems include accusations that he dithered in the face of reported sexual assaults in the Alaska National Guard. The state's Democratic nominee for governor dropped out of the race and became independent Bill Walker's running mate. Parnell's critics hope the pairing will unite enough unaffiliated and Democratic voters to overcome the state's traditional Republican tilt. Even a modest anti-Republican surge could hurt Senate nominee Dan Sullivan. Ethan Berkowitz, a Democrat who ran against Parnell in 2010 and was a state legislative leader, said conditions are ripe for a good Democratic turnout. Ballot initiatives dealing with labor, the minimum wage and the environment should energize the liberal base, Berkowitz said, and Begich's ground forces "are everywhere." □



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Maine bear bait vote sparks interest around US

PATRICK WHITTLE
Associated Press

WILTON, Maine (AP) — In Maine, a hunter can shoot a bear while it's nose-deep in a barrel of doughnuts, after it's been chased up a tree by dogs, or when it's snared in a cable trap — but that could change in just a few days.

Hunters and animal rights advocates around the U.S. are watching the fight

over bear hunting tactics in Maine, the only one of 32 states that allows all three methods — bait, dogs and traps — targeted by a Nov. 4 ballot proposal. National hunting groups oppose the ban because they believe it could set a precedent that prompts other states to try to roll back hunting rights. Some animal rights activists see it as a dress rehearsal for

referendums in other states that allow hunting methods they perceive as cruel.

The referendum has prompted a spirited fight within the state, where proponents of the ban say the food habituates bears to humans, which can lead

campaigned against it. Maine wildlife division director Judy Camuso said passage of the ban would mean a larger bear population that would create more competition for resources, meaning more bears starve and range

Fair Bear Hunting. She said that's also why nuisance bear encounters have increased about 25 percent, to about 500 per year, since a decade ago.

"It's the absolute worst way to manage bears if you want to minimize conflicts with people," Hansberry said.

People have hunted bears in Maine for hundreds of years — an article on a Maine Historical Society website details Native Americans' reliance on bears for food more than 1,200 years ago. Today, Maine is the only state that allows all three hunting methods, and the only state that allows trapping, typically with foothold snares. Hunting without the three methods, which proponents of the ban call "fair chase," would remain legal if the referendum passes.

Twelve states allow bear baiting — with different degrees of restrictions — and of those, Maine, Alaska, Idaho, Utah, Michigan, Wisconsin and New Hampshire also allow hunting with dogs, or "hounding." Eleven other states allow hounding but not baiting. Massachusetts, Washington, Oregon and Colorado voters rolled back hunting methods via referendum in the 1990s.

Many hunters say the ban would devastate Maine outfitters and guides who rely on the fall bear hunt to bring in out-of-state tourism dollars.

"If this thing passes, you won't have to worry about them coming back," said Bob Parker, owner of Stony Brook Outfitters, motioning to a group of about 20 out-of-state hunters at his Wilton lodge. "I'll be out of business. There's just no way to keep the doors open."



A black bear is seen at the Maine Wildlife Park in New Gloucester, Maine. On Nov. 4 Maine voters decide on a proposal to ban the use of bait, dogs, and traps to hunt black bears.

(AP Photo/Robert F. Bukaty)

to dangerous encounters. They also decry the three methods as unsportsman-like. But opponents say the methods are necessary to control Maine's growing bear population, which has risen to about 30,000, up about 30 percent from ten years ago.

Campaigns supporting and opposing the ban have both raised more than \$1 million. The Ohio-based U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance has donated more than \$100,000 to Save Maine's Bear Hunt, which seeks to defeat the referendum, said Evan Heusinkveld, a spokesman for the group.

"It's a direct threat to the future of hunting in Maine and across the country," Heusinkveld said. "We want to see the longtime professionals in the state be able to manage the bear population."

State wildlife biologists also oppose the ban and have

into residential settings in search of food.

"What I really don't want is people's primary interaction with a black bear to be that of a nuisance," Camuso said.

Using bait — typically sugary human food such as doughnuts — is by far the most common method of bear hunting, accounting for about four-fifths of the hunt, and is the most debated of the three methods.

Supporters of the proposal say the use of bait has actually abetted the state's growing bear population. Dumping thousands of pounds of human food into the woods — one oft-cited estimate says it's about 7 million pounds (3.2 million kilograms) per year — has created a well-fed bear population that reproduces more frequently, said Katie Hansberry, campaign director for Mainers for

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After Sandy:**Is New York area ready for the next big storm?****JENNIFER PELTZ**

WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — After Superstorm Sandy, officials in New York and New Jersey vowed to make sure the unprecedented destruction wouldn't happen again.

Two years later, would it? There are some concrete signs of tougher protections, from a nearly-finished sea wall protecting two devastated New Jersey towns to a Long Island boardwalk rebuilt to serve as a retaining wall. New floodgates protect a power plant where Sandy plunged lower Manhattan into darkness and some homes sit higher while other buildings boast new flood barriers.

Enhanced preparedness has hardened backup power systems at hospitals, forged new systems to flood-proof subway vents, installed generators at dozens of gas stations to run pumps in a power outage, redrawn evacuation-zone maps and reshaped emergency plans for managing problems from debris to traffic.

But many planned projects are still years off and some ideas still under study. Thousands of homeowners await repair aid, some of it coupled with steps to make homes safer. Some efforts to buy out flood-prone homes haven't gotten takers in the worst-hit areas. And across the coast, a patchwork of protections leaves some areas more vulnerable than others.

Still, officials and disaster-preparedness experts see meaningful movement on a complicated problem that could take decades



Chris Niebling, deputy operation chief of the Office of Emergency Management in Mantoloking, N.J., steps over construction of the new seawall while giving a tour of the construction. After Superstorm Sandy, New York and New Jersey officials vowed to make sure the unprecedented destruction wouldn't happen again. Still, officials and disaster-preparedness experts see meaningful movement on a long-term, complicated problem.

(AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

to remedy.

"The region is better prepared for a storm like Sandy," said Rockefeller Foundation President and resilience expert Judith Rodin. "I could never say that everyone is or should be satisfied with the rate of progress, but things are progressing."

It feels that way to Bill Burns as he watches city-paid contractors boost his Brooklyn home up about four feet (1.2 meters), on a new foundation with conduits for water to flow underneath. He and his wife couldn't afford to do that after fixing the interior.

"This is going to make this house a lot safer to live in," he says.

But on Long Island, Anna Ervolina feels more vulnerable, not less. Architects have said she can't elevate her Long Beach

home, and though the city has some new protections, she fears it remains fragile two years after Sandy flooded nearly 2/3 of its homes.

"I don't think it will take another Sandy to cause damage," says Ervolina, who has yet to move back to her house.

As Sandy's second anniver-

sary approaches on Oct. 29, it's tough to analyze preparedness gains, versus goals.

Much of the focus so far has necessarily been on repairing, stabilizing and strategizing, and many plans that emerged after Sandy — blamed for at least 182 deaths and \$65 billion in damage in the U.S. — are long-term and intertwined with broader efforts at wrestling the effects of global warming.

There's no one regional authority in charge, and changes are in the hands of individual property owners as well as institutions. New York City alone has a \$20 billion, potentially decades-long plan.

That mosaic troubles some experts. For a region of roughly 20 million people to improve coastal protection in a changing climate, "things have to connect up," says Elliott Sclar, the director of Columbia University's Center for Sustainable Urban Development. To him, the area needs □

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VERONIQUE GREENWOOD

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When I was 17, I spent part of the summer perched atop the Sierra Nevada range of California, forcing a hand drill into bristlecone pines. It was the first of three summers that I worked for the U.S. Forest Service - summers when I also learned to drive a stick shift on roads that were mostly granite outcroppings, hiked up to nine miles a day and did things that, for me, were exceedingly improbable. I was an unlikely choice for this outdoor assignment. I had rounded shoulders and a neck that stuck out like a turtle's from years of reading. True, I went camping with my family and enjoyed day hikes in the summer and skiing in the winter, like a lot of other kids in our town. But I wasn't athletic. My body was a foreign object that I propelled through the world and that housed my brain, where I lived.

Nevertheless, that summer more than a decade ago, a friend of my father's, a government ecologist like him, took me on as a field worker. Every morning, we hiked up into the Eastern Sierra, bearing T-shaped increment bores. The stem of the T in these devices is hollow, with a sharpened drill bit at the tip. When you jam the bit into a tree and drill it into the trunk for a few minutes, a long, thin straw of wood accrues in the stem. The straw has a record of the tree's rings, revealing its age and certain clues about the climate during its lifetime. Later, in the lab, my supervisors would analyze that data to answer questions about the past climate in

those mountains and the distribution of tree species. But for me, seeking out the trees meant reaching the top of the first mountain I had ever climbed as an adult, without my parents.

concerned what pieces of the natural world would burn first in a forest fire, which meant that, during family road trips, we'd stop at burn sites the way other families stopped at

to be remembered." For my dad, what mattered most was to be Out There, where the majesty of the physical world was the only sensation. To me, that was part of what



Summer jobs with the Forest Service taught a young woman the joys, and the limitations, of the great outdoors. (Lily Padula/The New York Times)

I hiked up a steep ravine with a cascading creek, across a high meadow and up a slope of sparse pine trees before emerging at the bare crest of a 10,000-foot peak, ringed with scree. Looking out over the great north-south chain of the mountains, I remember really feeling like my father's daughter. From the time I was little, I associated my dad with the wilderness. It was true that he worked in an office at the state forestry department in Sacramento, doing no field work, himself. But to me that was just a cover; his job was all about the natural world. Specifically, his job

McDonald's. We sought out the desolate hills where all life had been crisped out of existence, and we listened as Dad talked about the regeneration of trees.

We followed him up mountains and down icy chutes beyond the boundaries of ski areas, in search of untracked snow. He loved going farther, beyond the civilized world. I have a photograph of him standing alone near the crest of the Sierra, his back to the camera, looking east. His legs wide apart, his hands on his hips, he surveys the peaks that stretch to the horizon. On the back he has written: "How I want

made him an ecologist. And because I was his eldest child and very close to him, I had the hazy idea that I might be an ecologist, too.

The second summer, I got a Forest Service job close to my hometown. Every morning at 7, my work partner (another local girl) and I would pack our truck with maps and equipment - tape measures, a laser level, waterproof forms. We had a list of streams in the national forest to survey, as part of a review process the Forest Service used to renew or revoke ranchers' grazing permits. If the streams in their allotments showed

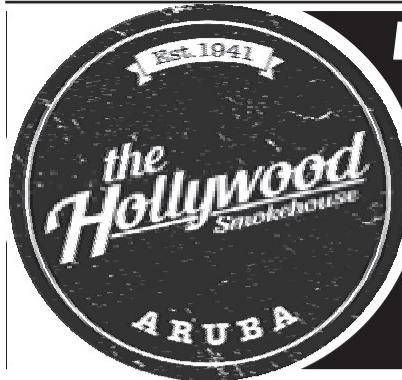
damage, the number of cattle on the permit might be reduced.

The third summer, after my freshman year of college, I returned to the same national forest where I had worked the year before. I met my first bear when I woke up in the middle of the night with it tugging at my sleeping bag, trying to extract my tasty feet. I struggled upright and swore at it until it fled into the dark.

The Forest Service had given me good stories. It had also given me a chance to learn to be comfortable in my body and to weigh the beauty and the dangers of being Out There. But in a revelation that would have surprised my 17-year-old self, I realized that I missed people. Unlike Dad, I liked trails. I liked the feeling of fellow travelers' presence. At the same time, I was realizing that writing was a job, one that I could do.

And the work was monotonous: As a field worker, I just produced numbers. I wasn't involved in using the data to change policy. Even when I thought about a desk job like my father's, where I could do that, I knew that my heart wasn't in it.

Not long afterward, in a biology class, I watched a video of cells dividing. Its beauty rivaled that of a line of distant peaks, giving me a thrill like that of being alone on the thinning edge of the human world. It would be several years before I started working as a science journalist. But I was already starting to feel that the dusty smell of field ecology offices was where I had come from - not where I was going. □



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Pro-Western parties seen leading Ukraine vote

PETER LEONARD

YURAS KARMAU

Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainians have overwhelmingly voted in several pro-Western parties in a landmark parliamentary election Sunday, another nudge in the former Soviet nation's drift away from Russia.

Two exit polls released as voting closed indicated that President Petro Poroshenko's party will secure a narrow win in the parliamentary election, falling substantially short of an outright majority. Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk's Popular Front followed closely.

Although they lead rival parties, Poroshenko and Yatsenyuk share pro-Western postures and have campaigned on reform agendas aimed at pulling Ukraine back from the brink of economic ruin. The parties are expected to join forces with similarly reform-oriented groups to form a broad pro-European coalition.

Talking to supporters at his party headquarters, Poroshenko said coalition talks will start Monday and will last no longer than 10 days.

Almost three million people were unable to vote in eastern regions still gripped with unrest as government troops continue to wage almost daily battle against pro-Russian separatists.

The vote on Sunday will substantially overhaul a legislature once dominated by loyalists of ousted former president Viktor Yanukovych.

"We are seeing a triumph of pro-European forces and a collapse among pro-Russian parties," said Mikhailo Mischenko, an analyst with the Razumkov Center think tank. "Ukrainian people

see their future in Europe, and this is something that all Ukrainians politicians will have to account for."

The Rating Group Ukraine exit poll said the Poroshenko Bloc won 22.2 percent of the votes and that Popular Front came second at 21.8 percent. Another exit poll, organized by three Ukrainian research groups, saw the Poroshenko Bloc with 23 percent of the vote and Popular Front in second place at 21.3 percent. A recently formed pro-European party based in western Ukraine, Samopomich, was seen in third with around 14 percent of the vote.

In an address published on the president's website, Poroshenko said the authorities had received an unprecedented show of support from the Ukrainian people.

"A constitutional majority — more than three-fourths of voter taking part in the election — have powerfully and irreversibly supported a European course for Ukraine," he said. "Any delay in reform will spell a certain death. So I expect the quick formation of a new coalition."

Other groups that look likely to have entered parliament include firebrand populist Oleh Lyashko's Radical Party, the nationalist Svoboda party and the Fatherland Party of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

Former boxing champion Vitali Klitschko, who headed the Poroshenko Bloc party list, called on pro-European parties to forge a common front.

"We have shown from experience that we can unite," Klitschko said. "We can unite for the sake of European values, and we must unite because there are external threats." □



Kiev Mayor and former boxing champion Vitali Klitschko, center and his wife Natalia speak to the press at a polling station during parliamentary elections in Kiev, Ukraine, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014. Ukraine conducts decisive parliamentary elections against the backdrop of unrest in eastern regions roiled by conflict between government troops and pro-Russian separatist forces.

(AP Photo/Efrem Lukatsky)



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Iraqi troops retake Sunni town with Shiite militiamen

SAMEER N. YACOUB

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraqi soldiers backed by Shiite militiamen retook control Sunday of a Sunni town seized previously by Islamic militants, said an Iraqi official and state-run TV, a rare victory for Iraqi security forces that have been battling to regain areas lost to the militants.

The provincial official said that government forces entered Jurf al-Sakhar, which fell to fighters from the Islamic State group in late July.

Col. Muthana Khalid, spokesman of the Babil provincial police, said the battle over the town left dozens of militants dead or wounded.

"Our soldiers raised the

Iraqi flag over government offices and buildings in the town. It is another victory achieved against the terrorists," Khalid added.

The town, 50 kilometers (30 miles) south of the capital, is part of a predominantly Sunni ribbon that runs just south of Baghdad.

State-run TV showed footage of Iraqi soldiers walking near Jurf al-Sakhar police station and the municipal building. Also, explosive experts were shown detonating some roadside bombs planted by the insurgents in order to delay the advance of the Iraqi forces.

The cleared town lies on a road usually taken by Shiite pilgrims who will be heading in droves to the holy Shiite city of Karbala next week in order to commem-



Iraqi security forces hold their weapons as they patrol Jurf al-Sakhar, 43 miles south of Baghdad, Iraq. Iraqi soldiers backed by Shiite militiamen retook control Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014 of a Sunni town seized previously by Islamic militants, said an Iraqi official and state-run TV, a rare victory for Iraqi security forces that have been battling to regain areas lost to the militants.

(AP Photo)

orate the death of Prophet Muhammad's grandson, Imam Hussein — one of the most revered Shiite martyrs.

The Islamic State group captured large swaths of territory in western and northern Iraq in an offen-

sive earlier this year, plunging the country into its worst crisis since U.S. troops left at the end of 2011. □

In Afghan's Helmand Province;

US, British troops end combat operations

AZAM AHMED

© 2014 New York Times

KABUL, Afghanistan - Combat operations in the province of Helmand officially ended Sunday for the U.S. Marines and British troops stationed there, bringing an end to a decade-long struggle to keep a major Taliban stronghold and the region's vast opium production in check.

Officials commemorated the handover during simultaneous ceremonies at Camp Leatherneck for the Marines and Camp Bastion for the British forces, conjoined bases that made up the coalition headquarters for the region.

The Afghan army's 215th Corps will assume full control of the camps, a 6,500-acre parcel of desert scrubland in Southwest Afghanistan - and with it responsibility for securing one

of the most violent provinces in the country.

While some U.S. combat troops will remain in Afghanistan through the end of the year, the closing of Camp Bastion signified the end of all British operations in the country. During the nation's long tenure in Helmand, which began in 2006, British forces lost 453 servicemen in the conflict.

The handover came amid the deadliest period on record for Afghan forces. In the six months since March, more soldiers and police officers have died than any period since the start of the war, evidence of the fact that the Afghan forces are truly in the lead, and of the grinding battle that lies ahead. Played out this summer, areas once deemed relatively secure grew problematic, while trouble spots became en-

gulfed in violence.

Still, officials on Sunday expressed cautious optimism that the Afghans would be ready to handle the fight on their own. While the Taliban tested districts throughout northern Helmand, claiming checkpoints, causing hundreds of casualties and sowing fear into the local population, the movement failed to claim any district centers from the government.

"Because of the competence, resolve and combined skills of the ANSF, insurgent networks have become ineffective in Helmand province," said a statement from the International Security Assistance Force, referring to the Afghan National Security Forces.

In reality, locals say, the Taliban have never been stronger in the province. □

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Israeli farmers observe sabbatical - with a subtle wink

DANIEL ESTRIN

Associated Press

BNEI NETZARIM, Israel (AP)

— Every seven years, according to the Bible, Israeli farmers must give their lands a rest for a year. So how do modern-day growers reconcile the ancient spiritual practice with a need to feed the country's 8 million mouths?

Most market their produce thanks to a clever workaround: they temporarily sold their farms, valued together at \$33 billion, to a 25-year-old non-Jewish telemarketer named George.

"I own all those lands, and I don't even own an apartment," joked George Shtraykhman, an immigrant from St. Petersburg, Russia. The seventh-year sabbatical, called "shmita" in Hebrew, began last month on the Jewish New Year, and extends through the fall of 2015.

Though only a minority of the Israeli population abides by strict Jewish religious law, nearly all Israeli Jewish farmers choose to follow the biblical directive, in part so they don't lose their Orthodox customers' business.

Rabbi Yaakov Ariel, who helped write the government's detailed how-to pamphlets for farmers and gardeners, said the practice serves as a spiritual reminder.

"We are not owners of the land. There is a master of the universe," Ariel said.

Out of some 6,700 Jewish farmers in Israel, only about 50 ignored the religious rules, while only about 450 abandoned their farms altogether this year, said Efraim Antman of Israel's

Religious Services Ministry. Most of the rest opted for George Shtraykhman. They sold their farms to the government, and last month, over cookies and orange juice, the government sold the lands to

and considered formally converting to Judaism.

"In the end, I decided it wasn't for me because I like cheeseburgers," he said in jest, referring to Jewish dietary rules banning the mixture of dairy

the ceremony.

Some farmers employ another clever solution to avoid tilling the soil: they use hydroponics, growing produce not in soil but in nutrient-enhanced water. Gilad Fine, 40, a skullcap-

cal year: the troughs are raised high and the ground is covered in dark tarp.

"There's no relationship between the land and the root," Fine said. "So we are keeping the shmita in a certain way, by not using



Gilad Fine, a religious Jewish farmer from Bnei Netzarim stands inside his greenhouse, between the southern tip of the Gaza Strip and the Egyptian border. Fine grows lettuce and kale using hydroponics on raised platforms to fulfill the biblical commandment to let his farmlands rest every seventh year. His greenhouse follows specific guidelines that certify the produce kosher for the sabbatical year called "shmita" in Hebrew, that began last month on the Jewish New Year, and extends through the fall of 2015.

(AP Photo/Tsafrir Abayov)

Shtraykhman, turning the non-Jewish telemarketer into one of Israel's biggest private landowners.

Technically, the yearlong sale is legally binding. In practice, it is symbolic. He didn't even take home a copy of the contract.

Shtraykhman, who has Jewish roots, said he spent time in a religious seminary when he moved to Israel

and meat, "and because not everyone needs to be Jewish. I can be a good person and that's it."

He maintained good ties with a rabbi from the seminary who introduced him to Israel's chief rabbinate for the sale. He said he "paid" 2,000 shekels, or about \$540, for the land, with money gifted to him by an official involved in

wearing farmer in the small desert community of Bnei Netzarim, grows organic romaine lettuce and kale in thin white troughs connected to an automated grid that circulates the enhanced water to feed the plants the nutrients they need. His greenhouse follows specific guidelines that certify the produce kosher for the sabbatical year.

the land." The most devout Jews do not accept these loopholes, preferring to import produce from abroad or from Palestinian farmers. What eases the concerns of Fine's most pious Jewish consumers is the fact that, despite the lengths he has gone to satisfy the biblical requirements, perhaps the biblical rules don't fully apply to him. □

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Indonesia's new president Widodo unveils Cabinet

NINIEK KARMINI

Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)

— Indonesia's new president unveiled his Cabinet on Sunday, a compromise lineup featuring technocrats in key finance roles who will need to push painful reforms to fix the country's slowing economy, but also including politicians who supported his spectacular rise to power.

Joko "Jokowi" Widodo, a 53-year-old former furniture salesman who was sworn in as president last week amid high hopes of progressive leadership in the world's fourth-largest country, had promised to promote professionals to top posts rather than party officials, who in Indonesia have a reputation for corruption and laziness.

Jokowi took the unprecedented step of asking the country's anti-corruption commission to vet Cabinet candidates, a process that

reportedly involved several being rejected at the last minute.

Dubbing it the "Work Cabinet," Jokowi named former state-owned en-

terprises minister Sofyan Djalil coordinating minister of economics. Bambang



Indonesian President Joko Widodo, second from left, speaks to the media with his wife Iriana, left, Vice President Jusuf Kalla and his wife Mufidah at Merdeka Palace in Jakarta, Indonesia, Sunday, Oct 26, 2014. Joko "Jokowi" Widodo unveiled his Cabinet, a lineup featuring technocrats in key finance roles who will need to push painful reforms to fix the country's slowing economy, but also including politicians who supported his spectacular rise to power.

(AP Photo/Achmad Ibrahim)

Brodjonegoro, a respected economics academic who has worked in government ministries before, was named finance minister.

Those appointments are likely to be broadly welcomed by investors, but ministers will need to quickly take steps to reassure the market they have the clout to cut politically sensitive fuel subsidies that are a drag on economic growth and speed up infrastructure projects in the country of 250 million people.

"It is not that impressive, but at least some ministers are what the market was hoping for," said Standard Chartered Bank economist Fauzi Ichsan, referring to Djalil and Brodjonegoro.

Jokowi named eight women to the lineup of 30 ministers and four coordinating ministers, of note in a country that is home to more Muslims than any other in the world. Among them is Retno Lestari Marsudi — the current ambassador to the Netherlands — who was named foreign minister, the first woman to take the post in the country's history.

Puan Maharani, daughter of former President Megawati Sukarnoputri, was named coordinating minister of human development and culture. Megawati was widely regarded as an ineffectual leader with a reputation for corruption, and many of Jokowi's supporters had urged him to resist pressure to put any of her associates or family members in his Cabinet.

The new defense minister is Ryamizard Ryacudu, a former army chief who led a large-scale military operation against separatist rebels in Aceh province in 2003. He has a reputation for being hard-line and ultra-nationalist. □

Coalition seeks to send North Korea to ICC

SOMINI SENGUPTA

© 2014 New York Times

UNITED NATIONS — Seven months after a groundbreaking report documenting how North Korea tortured and starved its citizens, a broad coalition of countries is pushing for the first time to refer Pyongyang to the International Criminal Court for prosecution of crimes against humanity.

Japan and the European Union circulated a draft resolution last week among U.N. member states that encourages the Security Council to refer North Korea to The Hague-based tribunal; 43 countries have signed on in support. The move builds on U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry's bid last month to raise the

profile of rights violations in North Korea by hosting an unusual session devoted to the issue on the sidelines of the General Assembly's annual conclave.

On Wednesday, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Power, furthered that effort by presenting an award to the chief author of the landmark report, Michael D. Kirby, a retired Australian judge.

The efforts are a breakthrough for human rights advocates who have long urged world powers to scrutinize reported rights abuses in North Korea and not just focus on its nuclear arms. The momentum has built since the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva called last March

for accountability after reviewing Kirby's harrowing report, compiled after interviews with 240 victims and witnesses who had escaped the country.

The report said there had been crimes of "extermination" committed, as well as murder, enslavement, torture and rape. The testimony included allegations that pregnant women in the gulags were sometimes so badly beaten that they miscarried and that one woman had been forced to drown her baby. If the diplomatic buildup reaches the Security Council in the coming months, it will ratchet up the pressure on China, Pyongyang's chief ally. It is clear to many diplomats here that China, which as one of five per-

manent members of the council holds veto power, is not likely to readily go along with a plan to refer North Korea to the court.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said as much Thursday, stating that rights disputes should be handled through "dialogue and cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual respect."

But Kirby said "we continue to hope that China, as a great power, will act as a great power."

North Korea seems to be taking the threat of at least some action seriously. Its envoys have struck back in recent weeks with a mix of unusual diplomatic concessions, hard-line rhetoric and propaganda videos. □

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

Kitchen Table by White: Fresh, Authentic Island Flavors

PALM BEACH - Island gourmands and vacationers who appreciate fine dining are buzzing about the unique experience of Kitchen Table by White, which opened in Blue Residences this summer. Helmed by Chef Urvin Croes, founder of White Modern Cuisine, Kitchen Table boasts that same attention to detail that made his first venture such a success, along with

and interpreted traditional island dishes in a manner to surprise and please the most finicky critic." Urvin and his team are all graduates of Aruba's highly-respected EPI Culinary Institute. He continued his studies at the ROC Gildewaart College, Nieuwegein, then apprenticed at the Brasserie Goeie Luisa, advancing to become their Chef de Partie. Urvin



a vibrant, passionate staff dedicated to the concept of elevating traditional Aruban and Caribbean dishes to the realm of haute cuisine.

"Aruba has more than its share of French/Italian/fast food restaurants and steakhouses," observes Chef Urvin, "but I honestly believe that island visitors are looking for a distinctive experience, not something they can have at home any time. During their stay, they wish to savor the authentic flavors of the region, and we have sought out fresh, locally grown ingredients

further developed his culinary skills during five years at the famed Michelin 5* rated Grand Restaurant Karel V, perfectly his art before returning to Aruba to open his own eatery.

Second in command, Sous Chef Ludovico Henriquez, and the Kitchen Table staff, consisting of Claude Werleman, Moises Ramirez and Jefferson Ramirez, are equally passionate about the concept of food as art. Watching them create the spectacular dishes in the elegant but cozy surroundings is a great part of the evening's entertainment.

The multi-course meal is a feast for the eyes as well as the tastebuds; the inventive uses of just-picked regional flowers and herbs such as frangipani, moringa, mata di seda and koko robona are explained, so diners can truly comprehend the careful thought and preparation that goes into each dish.

Rounding out the Kitchen Table culinary team is Restaurant Manager and Wine Sommelier Carlito Castillo, who thoroughly enjoys sharing his love of fine vintages and has a deft touch at pairing them to perfection. His enthusiasm for the



delicate art of enhancing the flavors of both the wine and food with an ideal match is as infectious as his ready smile and congenial charm. He spent ten years in the kitchens of the Royal Caribbean cruise lines, where as a novice to the food service industry he discovered their wine cellars. His passion for the art won him first place among over 1500 employees dur-

ing a stringent wine testing contest among all the line's culinary staffers.

Discover island cuisine elevated to an elegant but intimate dining experience at Kitchen Table. Seating is extremely limited with only 14 reservations accepted nightly and four held for spur-of-the-moment gourmands. Reserve early online via reservations@ktbywhite.com, or call 528-7015. □





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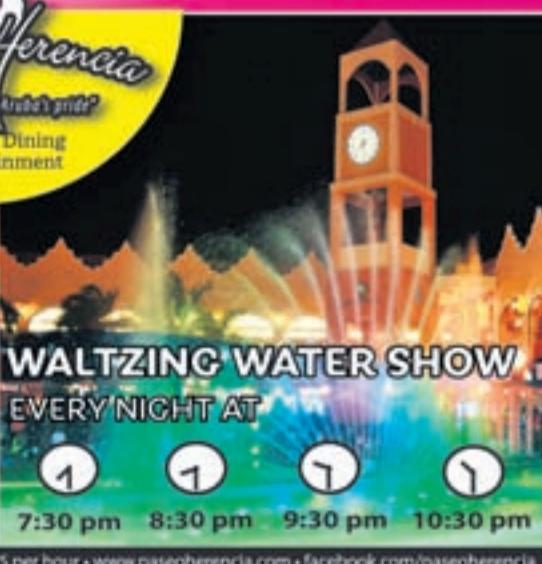
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Aruba's latest dinner under the stars location, Casibari Grill, is now featured on the Kukoo Kunuku Din-

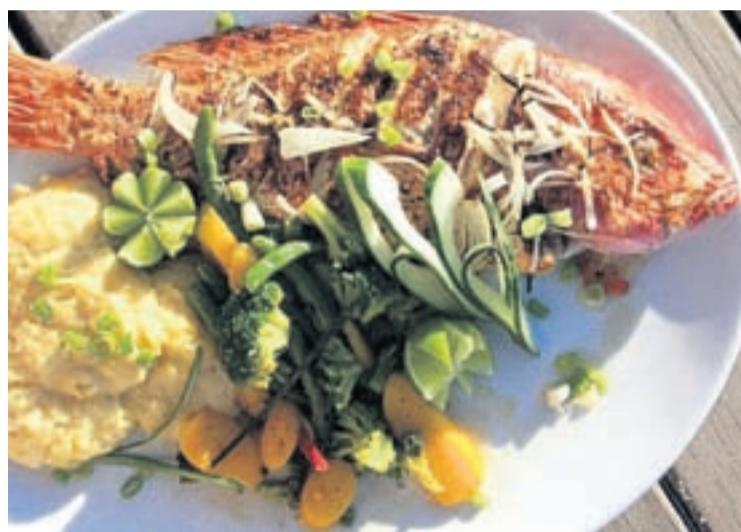
ner and Barhopping Tour. Kukoo Kunuku guests can now enjoy a great local BBQ meal with all the trimmings before embarking on a fun barhopping and nightlife adventure. The newly renovated Casibari, is now open to the public seven days a week serving delicious drinks and an exciting array of menu options. It is full of character with an atmosphere that can't be beat anywhere else on the island!

Take the opportunity to dance, drink, talk, and enjoy the music at Casibari Grill when you stop by on a Kukoo Kunuku tour the next time you are in Aruba. More information and reviews of Kukoo Kunuku can be found on TripAdvisor- it comes highly recommended from travelers all around the world!

For more information or to make reservations, please contact the Kukoo Kunuku at (297) 586-2010 or visit the website [www.kukookunuku.com!](http://www.kukookunuku.com) □

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20-or-more consecutive years.

The honorees are: Mr. Patrick and Mrs. Elizabeth Gattus of New York, and Ms. Samantha Hellwege of Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York.

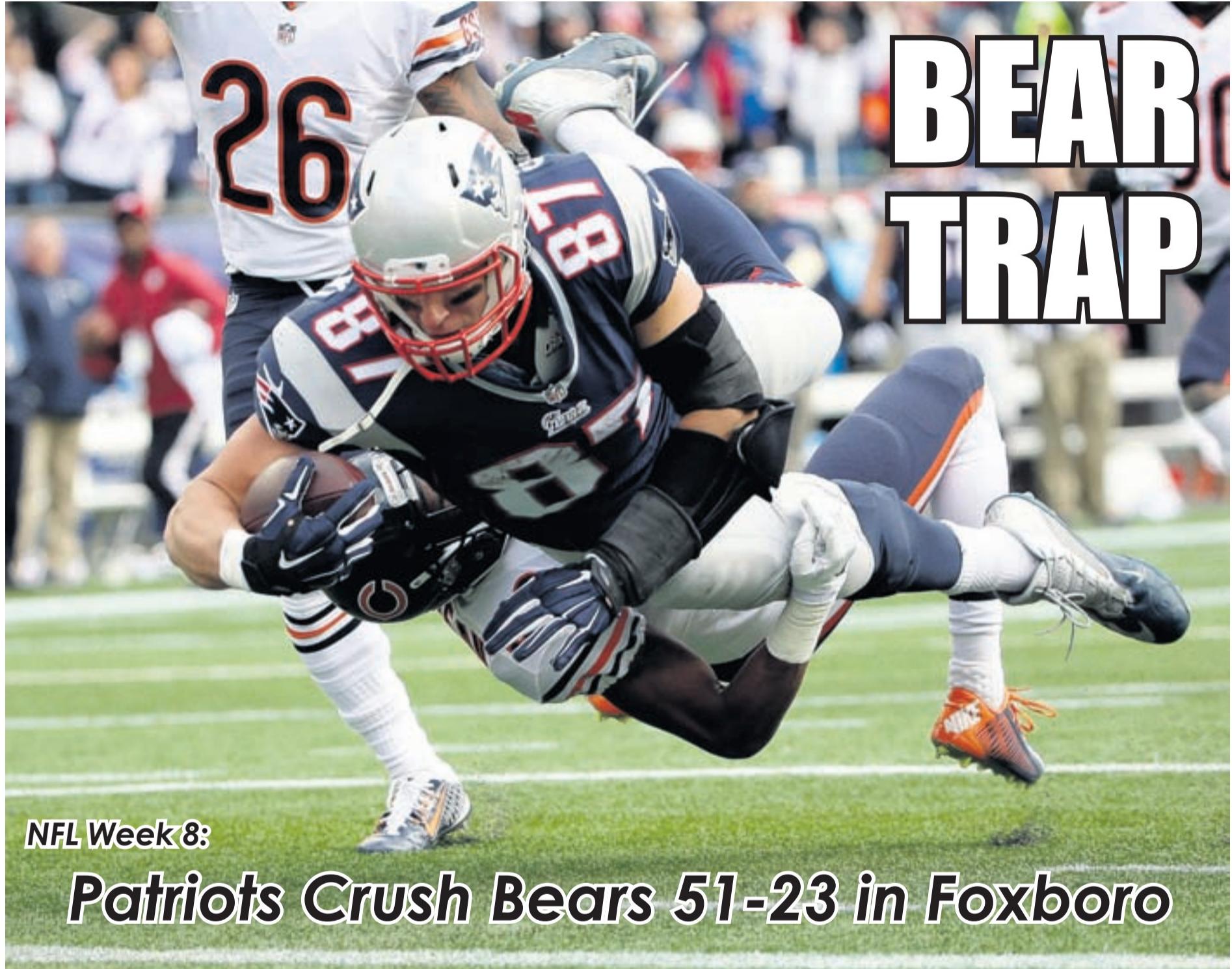
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Tourism Authority in presence of Ms. Sandra Miller Cornet of Paradise Beach

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SPORTS**Aruba TODAY**

New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski (87) carries Chicago Bears defensive back Al Louis-Jean (39) into the end zone while scoring a touchdown in the second half of an NFL football game on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014, in Foxborough, Mass. The Patriots went on to beat the Bears 51-23.

(AP Photo/Steven Senne)

The Associated Press

PATRIOTS 51, BEARS 23

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)

— Tom Brady threw five scoring passes and the streaking Patriots crammed three touchdowns into the last two minutes of the first half.

New England (6-2) scored on all five of its possessions

in the half — and one of Chicago's — on its way to its fourth straight win.

The Bears (3-5) fell behind 45-7 early in the second half and lost for the fourth time in five games.

In one of the best statistical games of his brilliant career, Brady completed 30 of 35 passes for 354 yards.

He threw three scoring passes to Rob Gronkowski and one each to Tim Wright and Brandon LaFell.

Defensive end Rob Ninkovich scored with 55 seconds left in the first half on a 15-yard return of Jay Cutler's fumble.

BILLS 43, JETS 23

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Kyle Orton threw four touchdown passes and the Bills forced six turnovers, three each by Geno Smith and Michael Vick.

Orton won for the third time in four games since replacing EJ Manuel as the starting quarterback for the Bills (5-3), tossing TD passes to

Robert Woods, Lee Smith, Scott Chandler and Sammy Watkins against the listless Jets (1-7).

Stephon Gilmore, Preston Brown, Aaron Williams and Da'Norris Searcy had interceptions for the Bills.

Continued on Page 18

Earnhardt Tops Gordon at Martinsville Speedway

Page 19



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NFL Week 8

Continued from Page 17

The Jets have lost seven straight for the first time since 2005, in Herm Edwards' final season as coach. Geno Smith interceptions on three consecutive possessions in the first quarter and was pulled in favor of Vick, who was picked off once and lost two fumbles.

BENGALS 27, RAVENS 24

CINCINNATI (AP) — Andy Dalton made up for his two second-half turnovers by scoring on a 1-yard sneak with 57 seconds left on Sunday, rallying the Cincinnati Bengals to a 27-24 victory over the Baltimore Ravens that tightened the AFC North race.

The Bengals (4-2-1) wasted an 11-point lead as Dal-

ton's fumble and interception helped the Ravens (5-3) pull ahead 24-20 with 3:59 left.

That's when Dalton pulled it out against the NFL's stingiest defense. He threw a 53-yard pass to Mohamed Sanu on third-and-10 — safety Terrence Brooks got turned around — and took it the final yard on fourth down, completing a 10-play, 80-yard drive.

The Ravens appeared to regain the lead when Steve Smith Sr. caught a pass and went 80 yards to the end zone with 32 seconds left, but the receiver was called for pushing off to get open.

CHIEFS 34, RAMS 7

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Jamaal Charles ran for two touchdowns, Knile Davis returned a kick 99 yards

for another score and the Chiefs trounced their cross-state rival.

Cairo Santos added a

pair of field goals for Kansas City (4-3), including a career-best 53-yarder. Alex Smith was 24 of 28 for 226



New York Jets quarterback Michael Vick (1) fumbles the ball as he's sacked by Buffalo Bills defensive end Mario Williams (94) and defensive tackle Kyle Williams (95) in the second quarter of an NFL football game at in East Rutherford, N.J., Oct. 26, 2014. The Bills won 43-23.

(Chang W. Lee/The New York Times)

yards, while Davis capped a run of 34 unanswered points with a short touchdown run late in the fourth quarter.

Justin Houston had three of the Chiefs' seven sacks. The banged-up Rams (2-5) lost their sixth straight to Kansas City dating to Sept. 25, 1994, when they were still in Los Angeles. Austin Davis threw for 160 yards with a touchdown and a pick.

SEAHAWKS 13, PANTHERS 9

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Russell Wilson threw a 23-yard touchdown pass to Luke Willson with 47 seconds left. It's the third straight year Wilson has brought the Seahawks (4-3) back from a second-half deficit to beat the Panthers on the road. In the previous two seasons, Wilson threw second-half TD passes to Jermaine Kearse and Golden Tate in tight defensive games.

Carolina's defense, which had allowed at least 37

points in four of its previous five games, held the Seahawks in check before Wilson led a nine-play, 80-yard drive for the only touchdown.

Wilson finished 20 of 32 for 199 yards with one interception and one touchdown.

Cam Newton was 12 of 27 for 121 yards with an interception and a fumble for the Panthers (3-4-1).

VIKINGS 19, BUCCANEERS 13, OT

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Anthony Barr forced a fumble on the first play of overtime and returned it 27 yards to score. The stunning end came just 17 seconds after the Vikings (3-5) extended the game on Blair Walsh's 38-yard field goal on the final play of regulation.

Teddy Bridgewater threw for 241 yards, one TD and no interceptions to help Minnesota stop a three-game skid.

Mike Glennon threw a 7-yard scoring pass to Austin Seferian-Jenkins to give Tampa Bay (1-6) a 13-10 lead with 2:02 remaining. But the Bucs' porous defense couldn't stop Bridgewater from putting together a nine-play, 61-yard march to get the game into OT.

Glennon's pass to Seferian-Jenkins gained 10 yards before Barr stripped the ball from the rookie tight end and took it up the left sideline to score.

DOLPHINS 27, JAGUARS 13

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Rookie Blake Bortles had two interceptions returned for touchdowns, costly mistakes that helped the Dolphins win. Louis Delmas (81 yards) and Brent Grimes (22 yards) scored on the turnovers for the Dolphins (4-3), who won consecutive games for the first time this season. □

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Earnhardt Tops Gordon at Martinsville Speedway

JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

MARTINSVILLE, Virginia

(AP) — Dale Earnhardt Jr. earned his fourth win of the season on Sunday at Martinsville Speedway in an emotional victory a week after he was eliminated from the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship. Jeff Gordon was second, giving Hendrick Motorsports a 1-2 finish on the 10-year anniversary weekend of the fatal plane crash that killed owner Rick Hendrick's son and nine others aboard.

"This means so much to all of us," Earnhardt said. "I lost my daddy a long time ago and I know how hard that is. I can't imagine losing the amount of people Rick lost. My heart goes out to him during this weekend. This

and sixth.

Running fifth, Stewart gambled and stayed on the track after the race was red-flagged with 10 laps left. Earnhardt and Gordon pitted for fresh tires, and that one final stop was just enough for the successful finish. "If we had to do that 100 times over, we'd do the same thing," Stewart said. "We didn't have anything to lose. It was worth the gamble."

Other Chase driver results included: Denny Hamlin eighth, Carl Edwards 20th, Brad Keselowski 31st and Kevin Harvick 33rd.

Earnhardt got the win he needed a week late and is simply running for trophies down the stretch instead of a championship.

"We tried to win here so many years," he said. "This

dropped with five laps left. Keselowski really struggled early in the race and was running in the 20s, but he had picked his way through traffic and made up some good ground when Kasey Kahne spun Brian Vickers to bring out a caution. Most of the field pitted and Ke-

selowski exited pit road in 14th — but was flagged for speeding.

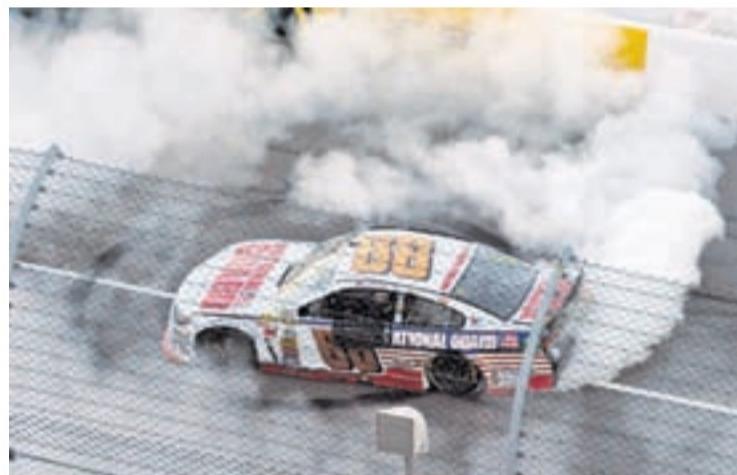
The penalty dropped him to 23rd on the restart, and team owner Roger Penske encouraged his driver over the radio to be patient.

"The car looked real good, so let's just bide our time

here," Penske radioed.

On the next caution, both Gordon and Newman were penalized for speeding. It hurt Gordon at the time — he had left pit road as the leader.

"Yeah, I knew we were. Big mistake on my part. I apologize," he radioed.



Dale Earnhardt Jr. does a burnout as he celebrates after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Martinsville Speedway in Martinsville, Va., Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014.

(AP Photo/Don Petersen)

honors them."

Gordon was the highest finishing Chase driver. Without a Chase driver in Victory Lane, no driver clinched an automatic berth in the championship finale at Homestead.

"That means so much to Hendrick Motorsports," Gordon said. "That's the best way you can possibly pay tribute to those that we lost 10 years ago. To have a 1-2 finish, that's pretty awesome. I would have loved to have gotten that win to move on to Homestead, but this is certainly a great start for us."

Chase driver Ryan Newman was third, and Tony Stewart finished fourth. Chase drivers Joey Logano and Matt Kenseth were fifth

place is so special to me. I wanted to win here so bad. We've brought some good cars."

Keselowski was in the hunt until he lost the transmission in the No. 2, causing a multi-car crash that involved Edwards with 64 laps left and forced a red flag.

"I really think it's an axle," Keselowski said over the radio. "It just started shaking off of turn 2 and then it kicked itself out of gear because it was shaking so hard. I heard a big clunking noise."

The second red flag of the race came out with 10 laps and lasted for nearly 10 minutes. Earnhardt and Gordon lined up 1-2 and instantly took off for pit road when the green flag

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Federer beats Goffin for 6th Swiss Indoors title

DANIELLA MATAR

Associated Press

BASEL, Switzerland (AP) —

Top-seeded Roger Federer won a sixth Swiss Indoors title on Sunday, comfortably defeating David Goffin of Belgium in straight sets to end a run of two successive final defeats at his hometown tournament.

Federer took just 52 minutes to win 6-2, 6-2, delighting the partisan crowd as he inflicted what was only Goffin's third defeat in 46 matches. "I didn't expect this kind of result but clearly I'll take it, it's great," Federer said. "It's indoors tennis, sometimes you just blow a guy out of the court and I'm happy it was me today doing that."

The first set lasted 23 minutes as Federer dropped just one point in the final three games.

The second-ranked Federer also moved a step closer to clinching the year-end No. 1 spot for a record-equaling sixth time as he moved

to less than 500 points behind Novak Djokovic, with his fifth victory of the season.

"I'm very pleased how well I'm playing," Federer said. "It was a great final, I think I

played really well. I'm full of confidence now.

"I was expecting it to be tough and him taking charge at times but I think I was really able to control the match with my serve

and then with my variation on the return. I think I did really well, I was fresh today, it was again a fifth day of tennis for me in a row and I'm happy I'm able to keep it up time and time again,

week after week."

Goffin had been in remarkable form since his straight-sets defeat to Andy Murray at Wimbledon but knew it would be a tough task against a player who —as he revealed on Saturday — is still his idol.

"It was a tough match of course, against Roger in his hometown," said Goffin, who admitted he felt the pressure of it all in the build-up. "He is in great shape and he played so good today. It was too tough for me today. I made a lot of mistakes, I didn't serve very well. But at the end it's a good week for me and I'll try to do better next time."

Federer was in front from the start as he broke Goffin's serve in the very first game, securing the advantage when the Belgian hit a backhand wide.

The Swiss star followed that up with a winning serve and a 200 kph (125 mph) ace as he took complete control.



Switzerland's Roger Federer returns a ball to Belgium's David Goffin during their final match at the Swiss Indoors tennis tournament in Basel, Switzerland, on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014.

(AP Photo/Keystone, Georgios Kefalas)

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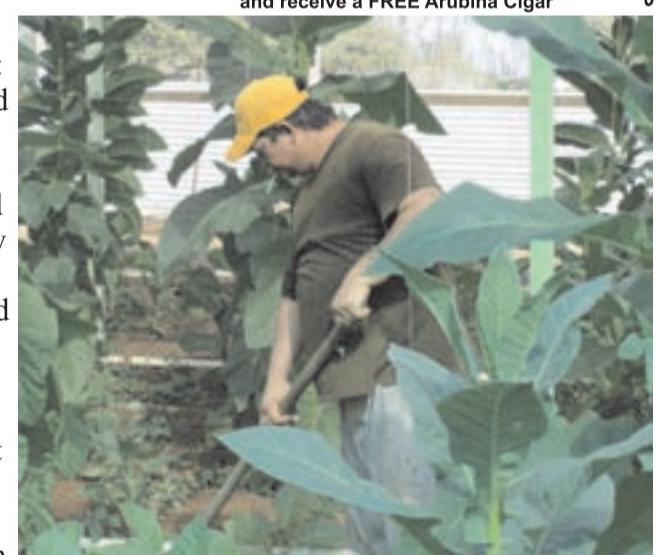
ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers

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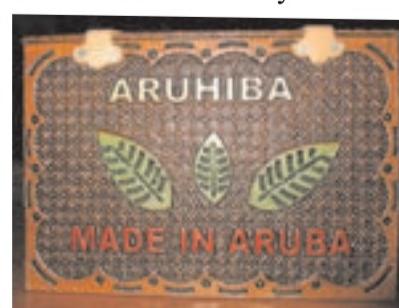
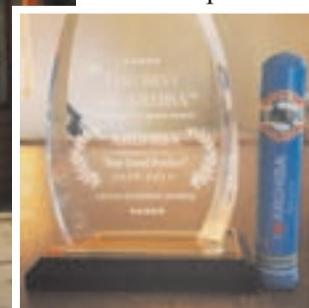
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Streb wins McGladrey Classic in three-way playoff

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Ga. (AP) — Robert Streb made the last of his 10 birdies on the second extra hole, winning a three-way playoff in the McGladrey Classic on Sunday for his first PGA Tour victory.

Streb rallied from a five-shot deficit in the final round with a 7-under 63. He waited 90 minutes to see if anyone could catch him, and then outlasted Will MacKenzie and Brendon de Jonge in the playoff at Sea Island.

The victory sends Streb to the Masters in April. The 27-year-old from Oklahoma has never played in any major.

"Very thrilled," he said when he walked off the 17th green.

Streb never felt more pressure than over his final two putts. On the first playoff hole at No. 18, Streb ran his 35-foot birdie putt about 4 feet by the hole and had to make that one to stay alive. MacKenzie was eliminated with a bogey from the bunker.

De Jonge hit safely on the green at the par-3 17th, and Streb followed with an 8-iron that covered the flag and plopped down about 4 feet behind the cup.

"I was pretty nervous over those short putts, but managed to work it out, and things went in my favor," Streb said.

On his bio, Streb mentioned two items on his bucket list were going to an Oklahoma-Texas game and playing at Augusta National. Streb grew up at Oak Tree just north of Oklahoma City and wound up playing at Kansas State. Even so, it would have seemed a lot easier getting a ticket to the Red River Rivalry than earning a spot at the Mas-

ters.

The latter wasn't easy, either.

Streb started the final round five shots out of the lead, and he didn't seem like much of a threat when he took bogey from a fairway bunker on the opening

on the PGA Tour by two shots.

Streb was the first to finish at 14-under 266, and it held up for the second playoff in the McGladrey Classic.

De Jonge opened with three straight birdies to get in the hunt, and rolled in

a great shot, and as I said, it's nice for him to have a birdie. It's a good way to win the tournament."

MacKenzie went from having the best chance to having to scramble. He made his first bogey of the final round when he three-

for the lead with MacKenzie, twice had the outright lead with birdies on the front nine and he remained tied after 10 holes. He made back-to-back bogeys, and then dropped another shot on the 14th and never caught up. Svo-



Robert Streb holds the trophy after winning a three-way playoff during the final round of the McGladrey Classic golf tournament on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014, in St. Simons Island, Ga. Streb beat Brendon de Jonge, of Zimbabwe, and Will MacKenzie.

(AP Photo/Stephen B. Morton)

hole. He wound up making nine birdies, including four straight late in the round to get in the playoff. He made a pair of short putts on the 14th and 15th holes, made a 20-foot putt on the 16th and took a share of the lead when he made a 30-foot birdie on the par-3 17th. The 63 was his best round

two more on the 10th and 12th holes. He missed a 10-foot birdie chance on the par-5 15th, and a 20-foot birdie chance on the final hole. He closed with a 65.

"I didn't birdie the par 5 in regulation. I had a very easy bunker shot, but other than that, I didn't leave much out there," de Jonge said. "What can you do? He hit

putted from 80 feet on the 16th to fall one shot behind.

He followed with a tee shot into 5 feet for birdie on the 17th. He came up short from the rough on the 18th and faced an 80-foot putt from short of the green. He lagged that perfectly to finish with a par and a 68.

Andrew Svoboda, who started the final round tied

boda closed with a 71 and tied for eighth.

Defending champion Chris Kirk closed with a 67 and was in the group that finished two shots behind in a tie for fourth. Kevin Chappell went out in 30 to get within one shot of the lead, only to par every hole on the back nine for a 65 to finish three shots back. □

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Chelsea denied by late equalizer at Man United



Manchester United's Rafael, right, and Chris Smalling fights for the ball against Chelsea's Eden Hazard, left, during the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester United and Chelsea at Old Trafford Stadium, Manchester, England, Sunday Oct. 26, 2014.

(AP Photo/Jon Super)

STEVE DOUGLAS

AP Sports Writer

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — Premier League leader Chelsea dropped points for only the second time this season by conceding a last-gasp equalizer at Manchester United that will also have been celebrated in the blue half of the city on Sunday. Chelsea was on the verge of moving eight points clear of Manchester City

— arguably its biggest rival for the title — when Robin van Persie rammed home a loose ball in the fourth minute of injury time in a 1-1 draw at Old Trafford. Didier Drogba put Chelsea ahead in the 53rd minute with a glancing header from a corner, for the 36-year-old striker's first league goal since joining the club for a second spell. Surprisingly, Southampton is Chelsea's nearest chal-

lenger after nine games, four points behind Jose Mourinho's unbeaten side. City is two points further adrift in third after losing 2-1 at West Ham on Saturday and United remained 10 points off the pace. Tottenham's disappointing start to the season continued with a 2-1 loss at home to Newcastle, which further eased the pressure on visiting manager Alan Pardew. Samuel Eto'o scored twice

in Everton's 3-1 win at Burnley, which is second from bottom and the only team in England's top four leagues without a victory this season.

A month ago, Chelsea came to Manchester and conceded an 85th-minute equalizer against City that was scored by its former midfielder Frank Lampard. Van Persie left it even later. The Netherlands striker pounced after a header by Marouane Fellaini was parried out by goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois. That came from a free kick conceded by Branislav Ivanovic, who clipped the heels of Angel Di Maria to earn a red card for a second booking.

Van Persie's late intervention made amends for his error at Drogba's goal. He was supposed to be guarding the near post as Drogba's towering header flew toward him but the ball went between Van Persie and the upright.

"To not be happy with a point shows clearly how good we were," Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho said, "and how good we are playing."

United made a habit of scoring late goals under Alex Ferguson, and after the disappointing 10-month tenure of David Moyes. □

Juventus beats Palermo 2-0 to extend Serie A lead

DANIELLA MATAR

Associated Press

Juventus beat Palermo 2-0 Sunday to move three points clear at the top of Serie A and bring a disappointing week to a close. Gonzalo Higuain scored a hat trick as Napoli came from behind to defeat Hellas Verona 6-2, while Inter Milan won 1-0 at 10-man Cesena to alleviate some of the pressure on their respective managers.

AC Milan drew 1-1 at home to Fiorentina in the evening match.

Fernando Llorente scored his first goal of the season after Arturo Vidal had given Juventus the lead.

"It's a special day for me

because it's my first goal of the season and I couldn't wait to get it," Llorente said. "It'll definitely help me a lot from now on to keep helping the team."

"It's not easy scoring from corners because the defenders are jostling you. I couldn't wait for a delivery like that to come my way to score and get off the mark."

Juventus moved three points clear of Roma, which drew at Sampdoria on Saturday.

Defending champion Juventus had seen its advantage cut after dropping its first points of the season against Sassuolo.

Massimiliano Allegri's team

endured further disappointment when it fell to a second successive Champions League defeat at Olympiakos.

Elsewhere, Genoa came back against 10-man Chievo Verona to ruin coach Rolando Maran's debut, Udinese beat Atalanta 2-0, and Lazio defeated Torino 2-1.

Juventus dominated but failed to create any real opportunities until shortly after the half hour when Carlos Tevez surged forward on the counter to set up Vidal for an angled drive into the bottom corner.

Llorente headed in Andrea Pirlo's corner in the 64th minute to all but seal the

match. Substitute Sebastian Giovinco saw a strike from outside the area crash off the post in the final minute.

Napoli coach Rafa Benitez was feeling the pressure, and days earlier the team bus had been attacked by disgruntled fans following a 2-0 defeat to Young Boys in the Europa League.

Matters went from bad to worse when Emil Hallfredsson gave Verona the lead after just 26 seconds, dedicating the goal to his father who died earlier this month. However, Marek Hamsik scored his first league goals of the season either side of halftime to put Napoli in front. □

Madrid win sets up season-long fight with Barca



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo, centre left, in action with Barcelona's Jeremy Mathieu, centre right, during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and FC Barcelona at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain, Saturday, Oct. 25, 2014.

(AP Photo/Andres Kudacki)

JOSEPH WILSON
Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) —

Real Madrid's commanding 3-1 win over Barcelona at the Santiago Bernabeu on Saturday leaves the two Spanish giants poised to dispute the title that escaped them last season. Barcelona arrived in the capital unbeaten and aiming for a win that would have increased its lead over Madrid to seven points.

Instead, Madrid's comeback dealt Barcelona its first league loss of the season and closed the gap to just one point through nine rounds.

The title race could barely be tighter at this early stage. The mood, however, in the rivals' home cities was entirely different on Sunday morning.

Madrid-based sport daily Marca splashed the headline "They Ate Them Alive!" and fellow Madrid-friendly AS declared "That's The Way Madrid Wins," playing on a common anti-Madrid chant at rival stadiums.

Meanwhile, SPORT summed up the sentiment in Barcelona with "A Disappointing Leader" after Barcelona faded fast following Neymar's fourth-minute opener from a pass by newcomer Luis Suarez.

Lionel Messi could only manage one good scoring

chance that Madrid goalkeeper Iker Casillas did well to turn away, and Barcelona's defense went from shaky to shambles in the second half.

But Barcelona can take heart from Suarez's surprisingly strong return after a four-month ban from competitive matches for biting an Italian opponent at the World Cup.

Although still not fit for a full match, in his 69 minutes the Uruguay forward offered the most constant threat Barcelona could muster, setting up Neymar's opener and almost getting a second assist for Messi that would have made it 2-0.

His sturdier frame compared to Messi and Neymar was clear by the way he held his own against Madrid's physical defenders, and he showed no signs of rust from his long layoff.

"The result doesn't sink us," said Barcelona midfielder Xavi Hernandez. "We believe in what we are doing."

Coach Luis Enrique, however, faced questions over why his team failed to compete in the second half, and the first-year manager will surely be scrutinized for his decision to take Xavi off with his team down 2-1 and not to start speedy back Jordi Alba.

Madrid lost its two league

"clasicos" last season, but overall it has turned the tide against Barcelona since the departure of former coach Pep Guardiola in 2012.

Under Guardiola, Barcelona dominated Madrid with a record of nine wins, four draws and 2 losses. Since

then, Madrid has won five, drawn two and lost three. Madrid roared back from Neymar's early goal and shredded Barcelona's record of eight clean sheets to start the season.

The hosts offered an unbeatable mix of their traditional counterattacking style with a new willingness to dispute the hallmark possession of their fierce rivals. Cristiano Ronaldo scored for an 11th straight game when he leveled with a penalty in the 35th after Gerard Pique had clumsily handled in the area. Pepe then headed in a corner in the 50th before Karim Benzema capped his excellent performance with a goal after a collective defensive gaffe to put an early end to the contest in the 61st.

Coach Carlo Ancelotti got it right by replacing the injured Gareth Bale with another midfielder, Francisco "Isco" Alarcon, to equal forces with Barcelona in the middle.

"We saw a Real Madrid that also knew how to keep

possession of the ball," Madrid defender Sergio Ramos said. "They are not the only ones who can pass. It was a day to enjoy. We knew who to handle the phases of the match, when we needed to launch counterattacks and when to keep possession, something which they are used to dominating. And that hurt them a lot."

The result also benefited the other top teams in the league, leaving five sides within two points.

Sevilla pulled into second place level with Barcelona on points with a 2-1 win over Villarreal on Sunday, while Valencia and Atletico Madrid also won this round to sit two points behind the pacesetters in fourth and fifth.

Yet given the even greater collection of talent Madrid and Barcelona have amassed this season, the league title will likely come down to the two powerhouses who shared nine straight trophies before Atletico's triumph last season. □

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Live, LateNet with Ray Elin,
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NBC's The Today Show, HGTV,
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BRIAN SCOTT MCFADDEN
Late Show with David
Letterman, Late Late Show,
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty



LENNY MARCUS
Late Show with David
Letterman, Comedy Central,
HBO, NBC, MTV



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Wall Street Week Ahead:

Market jolt is reality check for investor confidence

STEVE ROTHWELL

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Sometimes a little fear is healthy for stock investors.

A violent lurch lower nine days ago knocked the Standard & Poor's 500 index down as much as 7.4 percent from its September peak as fears of a global economic slowdown intensified. Stocks have revived this week, thanks to strong corporate earnings, and on Friday the S&P 500 was marching toward its best performance in nearly two years.

How should investors view this intense flip-flop? As an overdue reminder that stocks aren't a one-way ride up.

While last week's slump doesn't technically count as a correction — defined as a 10-percent drop from a peak — that's how many professional investors view it.

"It's important to have these periods of scare and fear," says Joe Quinlan, chief market strategist for U.S. Trust. "It keeps investors honest and it keeps them on their toes."

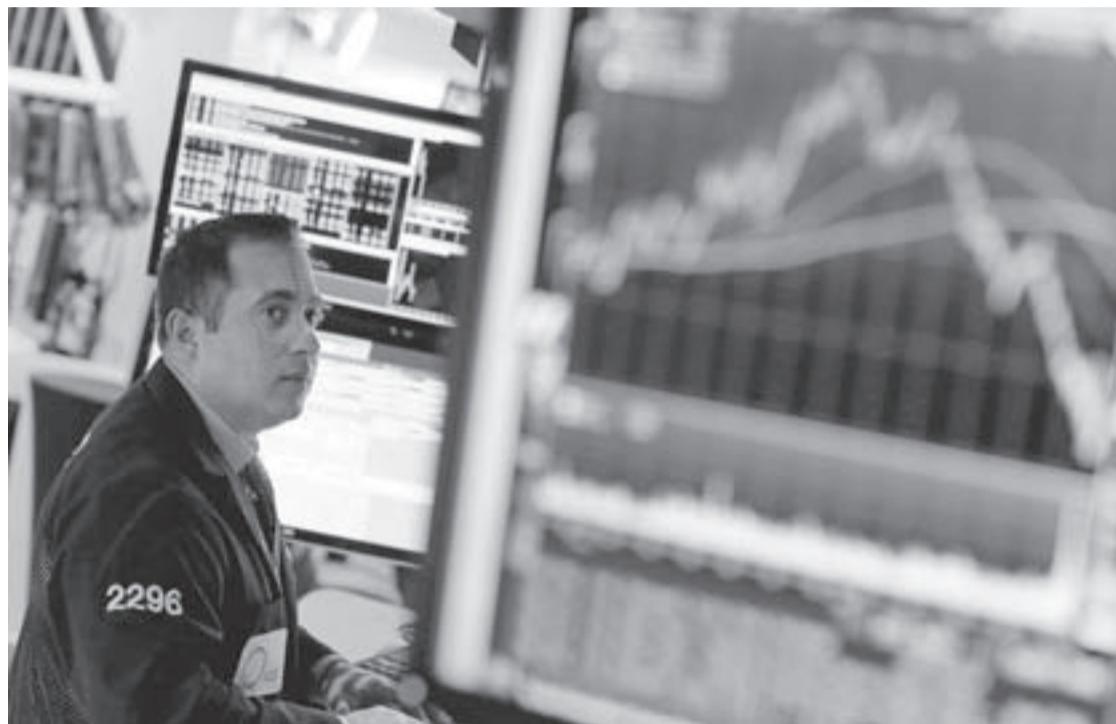
In fact, such sell-offs often provide a base for another move higher in stocks, market observer say.

That's because a slump stops people from focusing on the upward momentum of the stock market. If prices rise incessantly, investors sometimes stop considering the fundamental drivers of the market, such as

company earnings and the health of the economy, Quinlan says. Investors are also tempted to ignore a tenet of investing: Diversify. After a big drop, though, they think about putting money into other things besides stocks.

wasn't typical of a sell-off that precedes a deeper drop in stock prices. Instead, the slump was typical of a sell-off that happens in a rising market, known as a bull, he says. By contrast, big declines of 20 percent or more, known

evidence of that on Wall Street. Manley expects the stock market to continue to stabilize as the U.S. economy strengthens and company earnings improve. Some believe that the slump changed the psychology of the market.



In this photo, a specialist works at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The market's flux over the past week has given investors pause for thought.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

It has been more than three years since the last correction and that was making some investors hesitant to buy stocks. The average amount of time between slumps is 18 months, according to data from S&P Capital IQ. Many investors reasoned that, statistically speaking, at least, the market was due for a sell-off. John Manley, chief equity strategist at Wells Fargo Funds Management says that the recent plunge

as bears, tend to start with gradual sell-offs, rather than sudden swoons, Manley says.

"The thing about bull market corrections is that they come out of nowhere, and they are very violent and they are very nasty, and they are very short," Manley says.

For a deeper sell-off to happen, investors need to become complacent, or wildly enthusiastic, he says. So far, he sees little

Brad McMillan, chief investment officer at Commonwealth financial network, an independent broker dealer, sees more caution in the market.

The sharp sell-off has made investors focus on risks, such as a slowdown in growth in Europe and China.

"There are cracks in the ice at this point," said McMillan. "People are really starting to process the fact that 'we're pretty far up there,'" in terms of stock

prices.

After a surge of nearly 30 percent last year, the S&P 500 is trading at 24.8 times its 10-year average earnings, as calculated by Nobel Prize winning economist Robert Shiller of Yale. That is much more expensive than the long-term average of 16.5. Schiller's measure smooths out distortions caused by the business cycle.

It was also no coincidence that the slump in stocks came shortly before the Federal Reserve was due to end its economic stimulus, says Robert Pavlik, chief market strategist at Banyan Partners. The Fed is expected to end its bond-buying program this month, and to start raising interest rates by the middle of next year, its first hikes since 2006.

Pavlik points out that the market's sell-off only started to abate when St. Louis Fed President James Bullard said that the central bank should consider putting off ending its purchases. Stocks also rallied this week on reports that the European Central Bank was considering buying corporate bonds, a move that could lower borrowing costs and revive the region's economy.

"Any time there's a change in monetary policy you're going to see the market become affected, and you're going to see volatility increase," Pavlik says. Despite the gyrations, the S&P 500 index is trading at 1,962, slightly higher than where analysts expected it to end the year. The average forecast of five banks polled at the end of 2013 was for the index to end this year at 1,915.

History suggests that the last quarter of the year will end up being a good one for stocks. The S&P 500 has gained an average of 4.8 percent over the last 15 years. Another factor that could support stocks? Global investors are likely to start shifting more money to the U.S. because growth elsewhere remains muted. That could push up demand for U.S. assets. □

FDIC regulators close small Illinois bank

WASHINGTON (AP) — Regulators have closed a small lender in Illinois, bringing U.S. bank failures this year to 16 after 24 closures in all of 2013.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. said this weekend that it has taken over The National Republic Bank of Chicago, based in Chicago.

The bank, which operated two branches, had about \$954.4 million in assets and \$915.3 million in deposits as of June 30.

State Bank of Texas, based in Dallas, has agreed to buy about \$626.1 million of the failed bank's assets and assume all of National Republic Bank's deposits. National Republic Bank is the fifth FDIC-insured institution to fail in Illinois this year. Its failure is expected to cost the deposit insurance fund \$111.6 million. U.S. bank failures have been declining since they peaked in 2010 in the wake of the financial crisis and the Great Recession.

Only three banks went under in 2007. That jumped to 25 in 2008, after the financial meltdown, and ballooned to 140 in 2009. In 2010, regulators seized 157 banks, the most in any year since the savings and loan crisis two decades ago. The FDIC has said 2010 likely was the high-water mark for bank failures from the recession. They declined to 92 in 2011 and fell to 51 in 2012. In a strong economy,

about four or five banks close annually.

From 2008 through 2011, bank failures cost the deposit insurance fund an estimated \$88 billion, and the fund fell into the red in 2009. With failures slowing, the fund's balance turned positive in the second quarter of 2011. The fund had a \$51.1 billion balance as of June 30.

The FDIC has said it expects bank failures from 2012 through 2016 will cost the fund \$10 billion. □



Harald Schwager in his office at the industrial complex of chemical giant Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik, or BASF, which is spread over four square miles along the Rhine River in Ludwigshafen, Germany. Lately, BASF has been investing more of its money and management energy outside Germany, especially in the U.S., and the reasons help illustrate why the German industrial economy risks tipping back into recession.

(Benjamin Kilb/The New York Times)

An industrial pillar in Germany leans abroad

STANLEY REED

MELISSA EDDY

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LUDWIGSHAFEN, Germany - In the 1860s an entrepreneur named Friedrich Engelhorn started a firm here to produce dyes for Europe's booming textile industry.

Almost 150 years later, that company, Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik - or BASF - is the world's largest maker of chemicals.

Despite its growth into a global company, BASF has remained an integral part of the industrial base that has helped Germany grow into Europe's largest economy. Lately, though, BASF has been investing more of its money and management energy outside Germany, especially in the United States.

And the company's reasons for doing that help illustrate why the German industrial economy has been losing momentum - and why Germany risks tipping back into recession.

BASF executives say German and European Union policies toward industry, particularly when it comes to energy, are forcing big companies to look elsewhere as they seek to expand.

Energy is perhaps BASF's biggest cost. Especially in Germany, energy prices have jumped as a result of the government's big

push for renewable energy sources - a policy that the government of Chancellor Angela Merkel has labeled the Energiewende, or energy transition.

At the same time, surging production of natural gas from shale rock in the United States is creating cheap and ever more abundant energy, giving American chemical plants and manufacturing sites a new competitive edge over facilities in Europe.

Already, BASF has doubled its annual investment in the United States to about \$1 billion a year.

With its French partner Total, it recently completed an estimated \$400 million expansion and upgrade of their petrochemical plant in Port Arthur, Texas, which employs about 250 people.

As a result of the modifications, the plant's main production engine, an installation known as a steam cracker - which was first fired up in 2001 and previously used feedstock derived from oil - can now make its chemicals from shale gases, allowing for potentially huge savings.

"We shift investment money from Europe into the U.S. as a consequence of the less competitive environment in Europe," Harald Schwager, a senior member of BASF's executive board, said in an interview here. □

13 Europe banks funk stress test

DAVID McHUGH

Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)

— The European Central Bank says 13 of Europe's 130 biggest banks have flunked an in-depth review of their finances and need an extra 10 billion euros (\$12.5 billion) to cushion themselves against any future crises.

ECB officials said Sunday the test had been tougher than similar reviews in 2011 and 2010, which gave a pass to banks that later needed bailouts.

They argued the review ensures banks, some of which have been reluctant to offer credit because they were nursing bad investments, will be ready to lend when the European economy finally picks up, removing an obstacle to recovery.

Yet after months of talk about banks that were

The ECB said 25 banks in all were found to need stronger buffers. Of those, 12 had already made up their shortfall during the months in which the ECB was carrying out its review. They found money by issuing new shares, or by shedding risky investments or loan businesses. The remaining 13 now have two weeks to tell the ECB how they plan to increase their capital buffers up to nine months to actually carry out the plan.

The ECB checked the worth of banks' holdings and subjected the banks to a stress test that simulates how their finances would fare in an economic downturn.

The exercise is aimed at strengthening the banking system so lenders can provide more credit to companies, boosting businessactivity and, hopefully, jobs. The economy

ery will not be hampered by credit supply restrictions."

The 13 banks that fell short were:

- Greece's Eurobank and National Bank of Greece
- Cyprus' Hellenic Bank Public Company

- Italy's Monte dei Paschi di Siena, Banca Carige, Banca Popolare di Milano and Banco Popolare di Vicenza.

- Franco-Belgian Dexia
- Austria's Oesterreichischer Volksbank Verbund
- Ireland's Permanent TSB
- Portugal's Banco Commercial Portugues

- Slovenia's Nova Ljubljanska Banka and Nova Kreditna Bank Maribor

The bank with the biggest shortfall was Italy's Monte dei Paschi di Siena, which was found to need another 2.11 billion euros.

Five of the banks — Eurobank, National Bank of



Participants of an urban race run past a branch of Portugal's bank Banco Comercial Portugues (BCP), in downtown Lisbon, Portugal, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014. The European Central Bank said 13 of Europe's 130 biggest banks have flunked an in-depth review of their finances and must increase their capital buffers against losses by 10 billion euros (\$12.5 billion). Portugal's Banco Comercial Portugues is included in these 13 banks that fell short.

(AP Photo/Francisco Seco)

"zombies" — walking dead, too weak to lend — it appeared unlikely that any would be put out of business by the test.

Most of those that flunked either have only small shortfalls to make up, or can point to ongoing restructuring plans as sufficient to bring them across the finish line.

has been plagued both by banks' unwillingness to lend at affordable rates and by weak demand from companies that see no reason to risk borrowing.

ECB Vice President Vitor Constancio said the stress test and review were "quite strict" and that "the results guarantee that going forward the economic recov-

Greece, Nova Ljubljanska Banka, Nova Kreditna Banka, and Dexia — will be able to make up for their capital shortfall by sticking to their current restructuring plans.

Most of the other banks that failed were short amounts less than 1 billion euros and in several cases less than 200 million euros. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

4			5	9	2			
3	6			1	4			
	5		1	4				
		8	2	1				
1		2			6	3		
	4	1		9				
9			5	2	4			
6	5					3	1	
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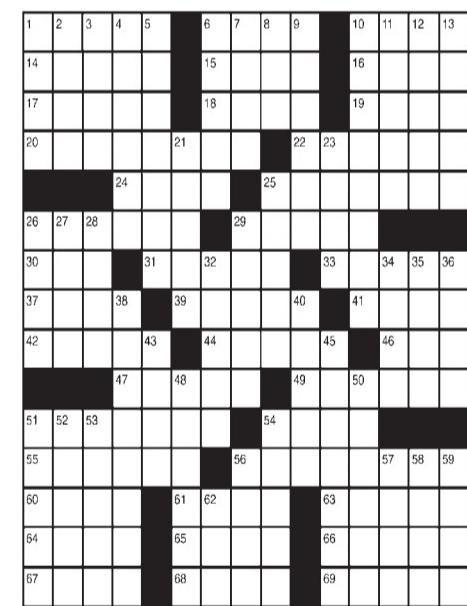
Difficulty Level ★

10/27

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

3	6	9	8	2	1	5	4	7
2	1	5	6	4	7	3	8	9
8	4	7	5	9	3	1	2	6
4	3	1	2	5	9	6	7	8
7	8	6	1	3	4	9	5	2
9	5	2	7	6	8	4	3	1
6	7	4	3	1	2	8	9	5
1	2	3	9	8	5	7	6	4
5	9	8	4	7	6	2	1	3

Saturday's puzzle answer



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 10/27/14

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

J	A	M	S	L	A	B	E	L	S	P	A	T
U	T	A	H	O	P	E	R	A	E	C	H	
T	O	G	O	T	E	N	E	T	P	L	E	A
S	P	I	G	O	T	S	N	E	A	T	E	T
U	F	O	W	R	S	E	R	O	S	E	R	
S	L	A	N	T	J	A	W	S	T	A	M	P
H	U	N	S	P	I	T	P	E	S	T	E	R
I	N	N	C	A	M	E	L	O	T	A	D	O
R	A	I	D	E	R	R	E	X	C	L	A	N
T	R	E	D	B	E	E	H	A	L	L	E	
F	E	T	I	D	N	A	B					

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10/27/14

- 2 Take ___; subtract
 3 Destiny
 4 Error remover
 5 Played over in one's mind
 6 Deep audible breaths
 7 Money, slangily
 8 Feasted
 9 Phillie Phanatic or San Diego Chicken
 10 Chicago's state
 11 Contaminate
 12 Long attack
 13 ___ up; tallied
 21 Helium & argon
 23 Destroy
 25 Partners
 26 Obstacle
 27 Bucket
 28 Competent
 29 Ceremonies
 32 2-footed animal
 34 Relinquish
 35 Head covering
 36 Lawn trees
 38 Uniformity
 40 Bar seat
 43 Oliver's request
 45 Least fresh
 48 Sell from a cart
 50 Small quake
 51 Zeal
 52 Africa's Sierra ___
 53 Two-___; was disloyal to
 54 Goldberg et al
 56 "I Got You ___"; 1960s song
 57 Bean curd
 58 Suffix for an inflammation
 59 ___ as a pin
 62 Use an oar

A bite to remember?

Chocolate shown to aid memory

PAM BELLUCK

© 2014 New York Times
Science edged closer on Sunday to showing that an antioxidant in chocolate appears to improve some memory skills that people lose with age.

In a small study in the journal *Nature Neuroscience*, healthy people, ages 50 to 69, who drank a mixture high in antioxidants called cocoa flavanols for three months performed better on a memory test than people who drank a low-flavanol mixture.

On average, the improvement of high-flavanol drinkers meant they performed like people two to three decades younger on the study's memory task, said Dr. Scott A. Small, a neurologist at Columbia University Medical Center and the study's senior author. They performed about 25 percent better than the low-flavanol group.

"An exciting result," said Craig Stark, a neurobiologist at the University of California, Irvine, who was not involved in the research. "It's an initial study, and I sort of view this as the opening salvo."

He added, "And look, it's chocolate. Who's going to complain about chocolate?"

The findings support recent research linking flavanols, especially epicatechin, to improved blood circulation, heart health and memory in mice, snails and humans. But experts said the new study, although involving only 37 participants and partly funded by Mars Inc., the chocolate company, goes further and was a well-controlled, randomized trial led by experienced researchers.

Besides improvements on the memory test - a pattern recognition test involving the kind of skill used in remembering where you parked the car or recalling the face of someone you just met - researchers found increased function in an area of the brain's hippocampus called the dentate gyrus, which has been linked to this type of

memory.

"Boy, this is really interesting to see it in three months," said Dr. Steven DeKosky, a neurologist and visiting professor at the University of Pittsburgh. "They got this really remarkable increase in a place in the brain that we know is related to age-related memory change." There was no increased activity in another hippocampal region, the entorhinal cortex, which is impaired early in Alzheimer's disease. That reinforces the idea that age-related memory decline is different and suggests that flavanols might not help Alzheimer's, even though they might delay normal memory loss. But unless you are stocking up for Halloween, do not rush to buy Milky Way or Snickers bars to improve your memory. To consume the high-flavanol group's daily dose of epicatechin, 138 milligrams, would take eating at least 300 grams of dark chocolate a day - about seven average-sized bars. Or possibly about 100 grams of baking chocolate or unsweetened cocoa powder, but concentrations vary widely depending on the processing. Milk chocolate has most epicatechin processed out of it.

"You would have to eat a large amount of chocolate," along with its fat and calories, said Hagen Schroeter, director of fundamental health and nutrition research for Mars, which funds many flavanol studies and approached Small for this one. ("I nearly threw them out," said Small, who added that he later concluded that the company employed serious scientists who would not bias the research.) Mars financed about half the study; other funders were the National Institutes of Health and two research foundations.

"Candy bars don't even have a lot of chocolate in them," Schroeter said. And "most chocolate uses a process called batching and alkalization. That's like poison for flavanol."

Mars already sells a supplement, CocoaVia, which it says promotes healthy circulation, including for the heart and brain. It contains 20 to 25 milligrams of epicatechin per capsule or packet of powder, Schroeter said; 30 packets cost \$34.95. Epicatechin is also in foods like tea and apples, although may be less absorbable.

The Columbia study had important limitations. □

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Colon cancer: New home test shakes up screening

MARILYNN MARCHIONE

AP Chief Medical Writer

Starting Monday, millions of people who have avoided colon cancer screenings

that too few people get checked for now.

On the other hand, it could lure people away from colonoscopies and other

through the options, including a barium enema or a scope exam.

"He pulled out one of those really colorful brochures they have for all those procedures," Smith said, but he had suffered an infection from a prostate biopsy years ago and didn't want another invasive test. When the doctor mentioned the new DNA test, "I said, well, sign me up."

The test was approved by the Food and Drug Administration last month and will be offered by prescription at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, where it was developed, and soon nationwide.

It's called Cologuard and is sold by Exact Sciences Corp. of Madison, Wisconsin. Mayo Clinic and one of its doctors get royalties from the test.

Cologuard was not directly tested against colonoscopy for screening but now is being marketed as an alternative. A large study compared Cologuard to one of the older stool blood tests and found it detected 92 percent of colorectal cancers and 42 percent of advanced precancerous growths compared to 74 percent of cancers and 24 percent of growths for the older test.

"Colonoscopy is the gold standard," but the new test "is pretty darn good" at detecting cancer, though it misses more pre-cancers than previous studies of colonoscopy show, said Dr. Harold 'Hal' Sox, a Dartmouth professor who formerly headed the preventive services task force.

Cologuard also had a downside — more false alarms. □



This product image provided by the Mayo Clinic shows the Cologuard test. The test is the first to look for cancer-related DNA in stool, and was approved by the Food and Drug Administration last month.

(AP Photo/Mayo Clinic)

can get a new home test that's noninvasive and doesn't require the icky preparation most other methods do.

The test is the first to look for cancer-related DNA in the stool. But deciding whether to get it is a more complex choice than ads for "the breakthrough test ... that's as easy as going to the bathroom" make it seem. On one hand, the test could greatly boost screening for a deadly disease

tests that, unlike the new one, have been shown to save lives.

It might even do both.

"It looks promising," but its impact on cancer risk and survival isn't known, said Dr. Barnett Kramer, a National Cancer Institute screening expert.

David Smith, 67, a retired teacher from Northfield, Minnesota, shows the test's potential. He has never been screened for colon cancer and his doctor ran



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Drugmakers bet on Ebola vaccines and treatments

M. PERRONE

DANICA KIRKA

Associated Press

Drugmakers are racing to develop vaccines and drugs to address the worst outbreak of Ebola in history. It's unclear who will pay for their products, but companies are betting that governments and aid groups will foot the bill.

There are no proven drugs or vaccines for Ebola, in large part that's because the disease is so rare that up until now it's been hard to attract research funding. And the West African nations hardest hit by the outbreak are unlikely to be able to afford new Ebola vaccines and drugs.

But governments and corporations now are shifting millions of dollars to fight Ebola in the wake of the outbreak that has infected more than 10,000 people and killed over 4,900. Experts say drugmakers are wagering that international groups and wealthier governments like the U.S. will buy Ebola vaccines and drugs in mass quantities to stockpile them for future use once they're deemed safe.

"The political bet is that the U.S. and World Health Organization have been so embarrassed and burned by this event that they will be willing to change the way they do business," said Professor Lawrence Gostin of the Georgetown University Law School, who studies global health issues.

Drugmakers have benefited from stockpiling before. During the bird flu pandemic of 2009, Western governments spent billions to stock up on drugs and vaccines that mostly went unused. Shelf-life varies by

product, but can be as little as a year.

Still, it's unclear who will pay for the Ebola vaccines that are in development, even after a WHO meeting on Thursday that included government officials, drugmakers and philanthropic groups.

"Something concrete needs to be developed soon," said Dr. Manica Balasegaram of Doctors Without Borders, who attended the meeting. "This needs to be done in tandem for us to prepare for when these vaccines are deployed in the larger scale beyond clinical trials."

Even with the uncertainty, drug companies are rushing to begin testing in patients.

Johnson & Johnson said last week it will begin safety testing in early January of a vaccine combination that could protect against an Ebola strain that is "highly similar" to the virus that triggered the current outbreak.

The New Brunswick, New Jersey, company is spending up to \$200 million to speed up production of the vaccine, which it licensed in part from a Danish company last month. If safety tests are successful, the company hopes to begin large clinical trials in May 2015.

The two leading Ebola vaccines in the pipeline have largely been funded by government efforts, but their testing is being completed by a combination of corporate and public financing. Human trials of a vaccine co-developed by the U.S. National Institutes of Health and GlaxoSmithKline are being funded by the company. □

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'Ouija' conjures up \$20M, takes box office top spot

JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The spirits moved "Ouija" to No. 1 at the box office, with the board-game adaption leading the weekend with a \$20 million debut, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The horror movie release, timed to Halloween, attracted more moviegoers at the North America box

hansson sci-fi film "Lucy" opened with \$19 million. Since opening in July, "Lucy" has made \$434 million worldwide, proving the global appeal of Johansson. Two Fox releases rounded out the domestic top 5. David Fincher's marital noir "Gone Girl," starring Ben Affleck, made \$11.1 million in its fourth week, bringing its cumulative total to \$124 million. It will



This file photo released by Lionsgate shows Keanu Reeves as John Wick in a scene from the film, "John Wick." The R-rated hit-man revenge tale opened with a solid \$14.2 million in second place, trailing behind horror film "Ouija," which debuted at \$20 million.

(AP Photo/David Lee)

office than the violent Keanu Reeves thriller "John Wick." The R-rated hit-man revenge tale from Lionsgate opened with \$14.2 million in second place.

Last week's top film, the Brad Pitt World War II action film "Fury" slid to third with \$13 million. In two weeks, the Sony Pictures release has made \$46.1 million.

Board-game adaptions such as "Ouija" have had a checkered history at the box office, with the big-budget "Battleship" — the last Hasbro game turned into a movie — famously flopping in 2012. But "Ouija," made by Blumhouse Productions and released by Universal Pictures, was made for just \$5 million, and scared up moviegoers with a micro-budget summoning of brand-name occult. Universal also could claim the top spot in the world's other top market, China, where the Scarlett Jo-

soon pass Fincher's "Benjamin Button" (\$127.5 million) to mark the director's top box office hit.

In its second week of release, the animated fantasy "The Book of Life" earned \$9.8 million.

As Hollywood's awards season begins to heat up, limited-release titles also made noise at the box office. Easily leading all films in per-screen average were Alejandro Inarritu's black comedy "Birdman (or The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)," starring Michael Keaton, and the Edward Snowden documentary "Citizenfour."

Laura Poitras' "Citizenfour" drew a \$25,000 average opening in five theaters for the Weinstein Company's Radius unit. Expanding to 50 theaters in its second week, Fox Searchlight's "Birdman" took in an average of almost \$29,000 per screen. □

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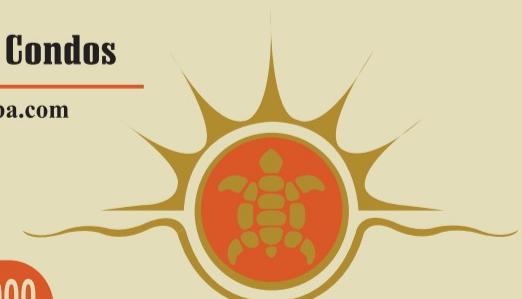
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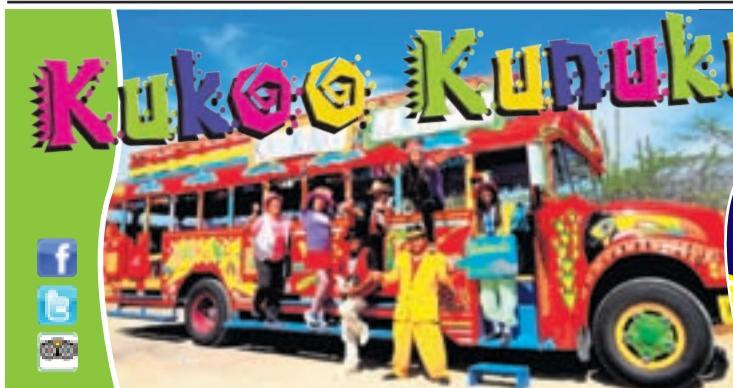
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Cream vocalist and bassist Jack Bruce dies at 71

GREGORY KATZ

SYLVIA HUI

Associated Press

LONDON (AP)—Jack Bruce was part Mississippi Delta and part Carnaby Street. In his glorious heyday as bassist and lead vocalist of 1960s power trio Cream he helped create a sound that combined American blues and psychedelia to thrill audiences throughout the world.

Bruce, who died Saturday of liver disease at age 71, enjoyed a long, respected solo career after the band's acrimonious breakup, but will be best remembered

for his stint with Cream and for classics like "Sunshine of Your Love" and "I Feel Free."

Much of the attention was focused on guitar wizard Eric Clapton, but Bruce wrote many of the band's signature tunes and served as lead vocalist. He also provided the intense bass guitar that, with Ginger Baker's explosive drums, underpinned Cream's rhythmic, driving sound. They had it all — commercial and critical success — until individual egos intervened and they disbanded, entering rock and roll

mythology as the original supergroup: super-talented, and super-troubled. Bruce was an important member of the British blues movement, which saw bands like the Animals and Rolling Stones first imitate and then expand on the American blues tradition as exemplified by Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker and other stalwarts.

Cream, inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1993, played a mix of traditional blues songs, with long, often improvised instrumental breaks, and their own tunes. They enchanted

critics and fans alike at first, but after two years some found their extended jams to be self-indulgent, with band members seeming to show off their musical virtuosity rather than trying to complement each other. Songs like "Spoonful" often lasted 20 minutes or longer,

his family said "the world of music will be a poorer place without him but he lives on in his music and forever in our hearts."

"It is with great sadness that we, Jack's family, announce the passing of our beloved Jack: husband, father, granddad, and all



In this 1993 photo, Eric Clapton, left, Ginger Baker, center, and Jack Bruce, members of the 1960s rock and roll group Cream, pose during the induction ceremony for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Los Angeles. Bruce has died. He was 71. A statement released by his family announced the death Saturday, Oct. 25, 2014. Publicist Claire Singers said Bruce died at his home in Suffolk, England.

(AP Photo/Chris Martinez)



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with each member playing extended solos that sometimes seemed repetitive.

Bruce enjoyed a long career after Cream's acrimonious breakup, and in 2005 he reunited with former Cream bandmates for critically acclaimed concerts in London and New York City.

Five years later, however, Bruce said Cream was "over" — an indication of ongoing tensions between the band members. Clapton had said the familiar problems were just beneath the surface during the band's reunion performances.

Publicists LD Communications said Saturday Bruce died of liver disease at his home in Suffolk, England. He had received a liver transplant some years ago and continued to suffer a variety of health problems. A statement released by

round legend," the statement said.

Black Sabbath guitarist Tony Iommi said on Twitter that Bruce had been his favorite bass player and greatest influence.

"He was a hero to so many," Iommi said.

In its heyday, Cream sold 35 million albums in just over two years and the band was awarded the world's first ever platinum disc for their double album "Wheels of Fire."

Bruce was playing and touring with his Big Blues Band until recently. In 2012 he played in Cuba, and performed in London at the famed bar Ronnie Scott's. His 14th solo album, "Silver Rails," was released earlier this year.

He is survived by his wife, Margrit, four children and a granddaughter. Funeral arrangements were not immediately announced.

What Women Want



GAIL COLLINS

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Women are big this election season. No group is more courted. It's great! The issues are important. Plus, we all enjoy the occasional pander.

Candidates are re-interpreting their old arguments in a new, woman-centric way. In Michigan, the Democratic Senate candidate defines his opponent's opposition to Obamacare as a plan to "cut women's access to mammograms." In Kentucky, Republican Mitch McConnell has female surrogates claiming that his opponent, Alison Grimes, is trying to convince women that they "can't graduate from college without raising your taxes." This appears to be an oblique reference to Grimes' call for reduced rates on student loans.

The College Republican National Committee has been investing heavily in online ads aimed at fans of the TV show "Say Yes to the Dress," in which the dresses are named after gubernatorial candidates. If you are in, say, Florida, you'll see a happy young woman trying on wedding gowns, twirling around and announcing that "The Rick Scott is perfect," while her irritating mother demands that she take the Charlie Crist dress, even though it's unflattering and costs more money. As a writer in Jezebel noted, it seems to have been made by people who felt the best way to communicate with female voters is "to explain things in terms of bridal wear."

In Colorado, some commentators have given Democrat Mark Udall the nickname "Mark Uterus" because Udall has run so hard on women's reproductive rights. It is definitely true that Udall has devoted a prodigious amount of ad-time to the fact that his opponent, Rep. Cory Gardner, is a longtime supporter of the personhood movement, which declares all fertilized eggs are human beings. Voters find this idea so unnerving that a personhood amendment to the Constitution was soundly defeated in Mississippi. As well as in Colorado, twice. Where it is on the ballot in November, yet again.

Gardner said he had changed his mind about the state constitutional amendment after it was overwhelmingly rejected in 2010 and he suddenly realized that it would have an effect on contraceptives. He is still a co-sponsor of a federal personhood bill, which

he claims is merely "a statement that I support life." Personally, I can see why Udall might feel that this matter deserves more inquiry. To rise to the level of hard-core pandering, a candidate has to float free of issues and waft into the ether of personal feelings. Consider Michigan, where Terri Lynn Land, the Republican candidate for Senate, has been running as a person who's been victimized for being a mother. The issue here is that Land has developed a tendency to deflect questions by mentioning that she's a parent. Local columnists have begun to make jokes about it, and there were suggestions that the mom-mentions might make a good drinking game. A spokesperson for Land's opponent, Gary Peters, said that being a mom was a good thing, but a strange point to bring up when the issue at hand was, say, the Islamic State.

"Well, I'm a mom, and I tell you, moms look at things from their perspective," Land said in a comment that her staff mass-mailed under the headline "'Well, I'm a Mom,' Terri Lynn Land Fires Back." Soon, prominent female Republicans were dropping hints that Michelle Obama might want to intervene on behalf of motherhood.

What do you think? How much mom-mentioning is too much? Here in New York, we have a candidate for Congress who's running under the slogan "Doctor. Mother. Neighbor." Does that sound a little . vague?

One thing we know: Male candidates who get in trouble over issues of sexism are not allowed to get out of it by marshaling all the women in their family to pose for a campaign ad. Really, that's just one step short of dragging your wife into the news conference where you announce you're resigning due to those sexting charges.

We are thinking here about Rep. Steve Southerland, a Florida Republican who sent out invitations to a male-only campaign event that suggested his guests "tell the misses not to wait up" because "the after dinner whiskey and cigars will be smooth & the issues to discuss are many."

Southerland is running against Democrat Gwen Graham, and doing such a swell job of it that in a year that House Republicans are expecting a big sweep, he's in trouble.

Possibly more endangered than the guy in Staten Island who was indicted for perjury and tax fraud shortly after threatening to throw a TV reporter over a Capitol balcony.

When The Tampa Bay Times asked him about the male-only event, Southerland laughed and said: "I live with five women. That's all I'm saying. I live with five women. Listen: Has Gwen Graham ever been to a lingerie shower? Ask her. And how many men were there?"

Now he's up with a new ad in which he stands surrounded by his sister, mother, daughters and his wife, who announces: "Steve's heart is in the right place." □



Putin and the Pope



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

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Reading the papers these days I find that the two world leaders who stir the most passion in me are Pope Francis and Vladimir Putin, the president of Russia. One is everything you'd want in a leader, the other everything you wouldn't want. One holds sway over 1.2 billion Roman Catholics, the other over nine time zones. One keeps surprising me with his capacity for empathy, the other by how much he has become a first-class jerk and thug. But neither can be ignored and both have an outsized influence on the world today.

First, the pope. At a time when so many leaders around the world are looking to promote their political fortunes by exploiting grievances and fault lines, we have a pope asking his flock to do something hard, something outside their comfort zone, pushing them to be more inclusive of gays and divorced people.

Yes, Francis was rebuffed by conservative bishops at a recent Vatican synod when he asked them to embrace the notion that "homosexuals have gifts and qualities to offer to the Christian community," adding, "Are we capable of welcoming these people, guaranteeing to them a fraternal space in our communities?"

But, as an editorial in The New York Times noted: "The very fact that Francis ordered church leaders to address these challenges seems a landmark in Vatican history." The pope asked that rejected language be published for all to see, while also

cautioning against "hostile inflexibility - that is, wanting to close oneself within the written word, and not allowing oneself to be surprised by God."

"Hostile inflexibility?" Whose leadership does that describe? Look at Putin's recent behavior: His military was indirectly involved in downing a Malaysian airliner over Ukraine and his KGB has not only been trying to take a bite out of Ukraine but are nibbling on Estonia, Georgia and Moldova, all under the guise of protecting "Russian speakers."

I opposed NATO expansion because I believed that there are few global problems that we can solve without the help of Russia. By expanding NATO at the end of the Cold War, when Russia was weak, we helped to cultivate a politics there that would one day be very receptive to Putin's message that the West is ganging up on Russia. But, that said, the message is a lie. The West has no intention of bringing Ukraine into NATO. And please raise your hand if you think the European Union plans to invade Russia.

Yet Putin just exploits these fears for two reasons. First, he has a huge chip on his shoulder - no, excuse me; he has a whole lumberyard there - of resentment that Russia is no longer the global power it once was. But rather than make Russia great again by tapping its creative people - empowering them with education, the rule of law and consensual politics to realize their full potential - he has opted for the shortcut of tapping his oil and gas wells and seizing power from his people.

And instead of creating a Russia that is an example to its neighbors, he relies on the brute force that his oil and gas can still buy him. While he rails against NATO, he is really afraid of EU expansion - that Ukrainians would rather embrace the EU market and democracy rules than their historical ties to Russia because they know that through the European

Union, they can realize potentials that would never be possible with Russia.

By seizing Crimea and stoking up nationalism, Putin was not protecting Russia from NATO. He was protecting himself from the viruses of EU accountability and transparency, which, if they took hold in Ukraine, could spread to Moscow, undermining his kleptocracy. Normally, I wouldn't care, but when the world is dividing between zones of order and disorder, and the world of order needs to be collaborating to stem and reverse disorder, the fact that Putin is stoking disorder on Russia's borders, and not collaborating to promote order in the Middle East, is a real problem. What's more worrying is that the country he threatens most is Russia. If things go bad there - and its economy is already sagging under Western sanctions - the world of disorder will get a lot bigger.

That is why Putin's leadership matters, and so does the pope's. I'm focused on Putin because I think he is making the world a worse place for bad reasons, when he could make a difference in Europe and the Middle East with just an ounce more decency and collaboration. America, too, has plenty to learn from the pope's humility, but say what you will, we're still focused on trying to strengthen the global commons, whether by protecting people from jihadists in Iraq or fighting Ebola in Africa.

We could do more. Putin needs to do a lot more. "The best leaders don't set timid and selfish goals that are easy to meet but instead set bold and inclusive goals that are hard to achieve," remarked Timothy Shriver, the chairman of Special Olympics, who has just written a book on leadership, "Fully Alive: Discovering What Matters Most." "We're all looking for ways to make sense of a world without a center, but we'll only find that in people who lead with authentic humility andreckless generosity." □

The Cult Band That Keeps on Chugging

ROB TANNENBAUM

© 2014 New York Times
After "Revenge of the Mekons" received its world premiere at the DOC NYC festival last year, several of the principals took part in a late-night question-and-answer session at the SVA Theatre in Manhattan. The director, Joe Angio, who spent six years making the insightful documentary,

Langford insisted.

So much for supporting the biggest marketing opportunity of the group's 37-year career.

This blend of epistemological skepticism and slapstick comedy sums up what fans cherish about the Mekons, one of rock's longest-running commercially unsuccessful groups. Founded in 1977 at the University of

first was "How to Eat Your Watermelon in White Company (And Enjoy It)," a profile of filmmaker and provocateur Melvin Van Peebles - he had originally planned to profile Yo La Tengo. He courted the band for around 18 months. "They never said no but, more importantly, they never said yes," he said in an interview.

what admiringly by phone from Chicago. "He just kept showing up and filming us." Angio followed the band while it wrote and recorded an album, "Ancient and Modern: 1911-2011" (Bloodshot), and on a highly unglamorous tour of Britain. (There are shots of the members lugging their own gear and shuffling through the parking lot of a

leased more than a dozen of the band's albums, says that a "good-selling" Mekons record amounts to about 8,000 copies.

Similarly, Angio knew there would be a limited audience for his film.

But he felt encouraged by the press attention drawn by "Big Star: Nothing Can Hurt Me," last year's documentary about an obscure '70s band from Memphis. Three of Big Star's original four band members are dead, so when Angio was shopping "Revenge of the Mekons" to distributors, one said, "Kill a few band members, and we'll talk."

Angio understood that the Mekons' between-song badinage was part of their appeal. In the film, they're onstage in Leicester, England, when they learn that a gig in Sheffield has been canceled because of poor ticket sales. A series of self-deprecating wisecracks ensues.

The singer-songwriter Steve Earle said in an interview: "I like their records a lot, but their breathtaking medium is the live shows.

They're hilarious, and they finish each other's sentences better than any band I've ever seen."

In the film, Angio shows how band members support themselves with non-music careers. Being in the Mekons "is like a glorified hobby, in the sense of what we get paid," Timms said. "But everybody in the band is middle class.

They're all homeowners. I have a pretty well-paid full-time job as a paralegal."

Angio's situation in some ways parallels theirs: He made the Van Peebles documentary when he was the editor in chief of Time Out New York, and while making "Mekons," he worked part-time as an editor and director for Time Inc.'s content marketing unit. The film cost roughly \$100,000, he said, and his financial ambitions are modest. "I'd like to recoup my expenses, and then maybe a little something beyond that," he said. "What would the salary be for something that took six years?" □



From left: Sally Timms, Rico Bell, Mitch Flacco (a so-called "deputy" band member, on floor), Steve Goulding and Jon Langford of the Mekons, in an undated handout photo. A new documentary charts the trajectory of the wry Mekons, one of rock's longest-running commercially unsuccessful groups.

(Frank Swider/Music Box Films via The New York Times)

pointed out some people in the crowd who appear in it, including novelist Jonathan Franzen and Craig Finn, leader of the Hold Steady.

The customary pleasantries ended when a few of the Mekons began to comment.

"It wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be," the drummer, Steve Goulding, said. Sally Timms, a singer, expressed doubt that any filmmaker could accurately depict the experience of being in a band. Then singer and guitarist Jon Langford made some mock-derisive comments about Goulding. "Shut up," Goulding requested. "No, you shut up,"

Leeds, the band initially had limited musical skills, which is a comic refrain of the film. Langford recalls being asked, "Do you want to be in a band where no one can play?"

He also tells an anecdote about Bob Last, an architecture student and roadie who offered to release a single on his budding independent label, Fast Product, and sealed the deal by announcing: "I don't want a proper band. I want the Mekons."

Angio, 54, considers himself "a relative latecomer" to the Mekons because he didn't see them perform until the mid-'90s. For the movie, his second full-length documentary - his

After giving up on that idea in 2007, he started flipping through his alphabetized collection of albums and CDs. "I got to the M's, and it was like: Eureka, the Mekons! They're an even better story," Angio said. To his relief, Langford, a member of the original lineup, replied quickly to an email. ("Revenge of the Mekons" opens Wednesday at Film Forum, followed by a symposium on the band at Columbia University on Thursday.)

Some band members, especially Timms, who joined in the mid-1980s, were opposed to making the documentary. "I'd say Joe's perseverance made it happen," she said some-

Days Inn.) "I'm amazed Joe was able to finish the film," Langford said. "We're not the easiest people to track down and work with."

In interviews with current and former band members and admirers, Angio chronicles the band's creation by socialist fine art students, its embrace of mutated country and folk music, a brief (and doomed) relationship with a major label and its reasons for persisting in a career that has never risen above obscurity. The Mekons are often referred to as a cult band, and he makes it clear what that means.

Ed Roche, the manager of Quarterstick, an independent label that has re-